

## ATHA AND DISTRICT

Many Happy Birthdays to lit the Albert Draper who will be 6 years old on Sunday, Jan. 10th. Sympathy of this community is extended to the Byer family in the sudden passing of their father, the late Joe Byer.

Mr. and Mrs. David Tran have returned home after spending the Christmas Holidays with their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Overland, in Kingston. We extend sympathy to the wife and family of the late Peter Nighwander, Altona. In the sudden passing of a husband and father.

Mr. and Mrs. John Williams of Altona, Mr. and Mrs. David Tran had dinner on New Year's day with Mr. and Mrs. Joe

Tran and family. Mr. Will Coates, Mrs. Edyth Sodian, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. MacAloney and Brian, had New Year's dinner with the Carruthers.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Draper had dinner with their son Mr. and Mrs. Green Draper on New Year's day.

Miss Eileen Draper, Toronto, spent New Years weekend at her parents' home, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Draper.

Those who spent New Year's evening with the Carruthers family were: Mr. and Mrs. Foster Wagg, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Brillinger, Jimmy and Judy, Mr. and Mrs. Graham Robinson and family, Keith, Sheila, Brenda and little Wayne, all from Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Melton and family were supper guests on New Year's day with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lewis of Altona.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bielby, Mr. and Mrs. John Bielby, Janet, Laura and little Irene from Cedar Grove were dinner and supper guests on New Year's day, with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dunkeld.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Turnbull and family, Oakville, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Walters, of Toronto, spent New Year's day with their mother, Mrs. Gertrude Hoover and Vern.

Mr. Bob McDonald had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Raye Macdonald on New Year's day.

New Years guests with Mr. and Mrs. Murray Dunkeld were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wagg of Stouffville, Miss Nelda Dunkeld, and Mr. J. Loree, Toronto.

Visitors at the home of Mr.

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## Ingenuity and Talent Showed Up During Recent Buttonville Blackout

### Neighbourhood Notes—

Last week the common greeting hereabouts was not "Happy New Year" but "Is your hydro off?" or "Have you any heat?" The ice storm which left an unbelievably beautiful landscape and countless shattered trees in its wake was also responsible for useless power and telephone lines. Some homes on Steele's Avenue were still without hydro after a week had passed; but for the most part Buttonville householders were inconvenienced for no more than a day. Fortunately the mercury stayed in the 20's, so water systems were not endangered.

At that, the situation had its lighter side! Ingenuity and talent never had been discovered. One family which had no cooking or furnace heat, made hot coffee with a blow torch; many others used a grill on the fireplace, and in lieu of TV, the small fry showed what they could do by way of entertainment. As one grandfather remarked: "Usually when the grandchildren are here we sit around watching TV, but the other night there wasn't any, so we sang songs and the kids did stunt after stunt. We had no idea they could do so well."

Family parties were popular during the festive season. At Christmas Mr. and Mrs. E. Crisp visited various relatives in Toronto and went on to be with their daughter and her family, Mr. and Mrs. H. Rowlands at Ajax. Later in the week Mr. and Mrs. Rowlands and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Crisp and their families spent a day here with the Crisps.

Bruce and Jean Jones and their children, of Wallaceburg, were here with Bruce's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Jones, as were Gordon and Doreen Vaughan and Gail, at Christmas time. Later, Mr. Dick Jones drove the Wallaceburg family home and stayed over to watch Bruce play hockey with the Wallaceburg team.

Members of the Vaughan family were guests of Mr. and Mrs. David Prentice of Stouffville on Christmas day, and Mr. and Mrs. George Clarke Sr., were with their son George and his family at Markham.

Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Patterson and their family exchanged visits with the Harold Stefflers, and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Stots had Mr. and Mrs. Milford Stots and Gordon, of Toronto, Mrs. Lucy Topham of Stouffville and Mrs. Stots' sister and members of her family as guests.

For the John Storey family it was an especially happy time, since Art learned he didn't have to go into hospital for another operation on his foot, which was injured last summer. To celebrate, he drove with his grandparents to London and Strathroy to visit his great-grandfather immediately after Christmas.

At the Douglas Hood's last Sunday evening Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rutherford and their family, and Don and Dorothy Reesor, just returned from their honeymoon in Quebec, were guests.

At Christmas time Mr. and Mrs. John Donaldson were with Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Williams and their family in Toronto, and on New Year's day the Donaldsons entertained Rae and Betty, Donaldson and Mary Lynn Snider, John and Margaret Brumwell and Bruce and Norma Williams and their family.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmore Hill joined the Bruce Robinson family at New Year's and at Christmas there was a party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Hill, Newmarket.

Doug and Beryl Clarke celebrated the season with relatives in Toronto, as did Mr. and Mrs. Fred Leaf and Lynda.

Mrs. Wilfred Turner and David were happy to have Mr. Turner home from the Weston Sanitarium for Christmas day, and the Douglas Hoops were pleased to have their daughter Marian Stephenson of Taco, Saskatchewan, as well as Isabel of London, Ont., with them.

Al and Beverly Jones entertained Mr. and Mrs. James McQuay, Don and Evelyn McQuay and Mr. Jones of Gormley on Christmas Day, and on New Year's waited for a call from California where Mr. and Mrs. James McQuay are now visiting Mr. McQuay's sister Rhea.

On the east side of Don Mills Road just south of No. 7 Highway. There will be many valuable and useful articles for sale, and there is no reserve. A good place to pick up that extra piece of furniture, electrical appliances, silver, china, bedding or linen. As good as new!

**Bride Entertained—**  
Prior to her marriage to Don Reesor of Markham on December 26th, 1949, Dorothy Hood was guest of honour at many parties. There was a community shower held at the assembly room at Leitchcroft Farm at which miscellaneous gifts were given. Mrs. Lynn Reesor of Markham entertained at a linen and kitchen shower, and Mrs. Foster Hagan of Thornhill held a personal shower. On the Saturday before the wedding Mrs. Douglas Hood entertained at a trousseau tea for Dorothy, and on Sunday morning at Brown's Corners Church where she has been the organist for a number of years, the bride-to-be was presented with a silver tea service.

Guests at the Reesor-Hood wedding were present from Williams, N.Y., Buffalo, Guelph, London, Toronto, Saskatchewan, Niagara Falls and Oran, Ont. Explorer Group Jan. 11—

The Victoria Square Charge Explorer group will commence its winter series of meetings on Monday evening, Jan. 11, at 7 p.m. in Victoria Square Church. All girls from 8 to 12 are cordially invited.

**Trustees Re-elected—**  
Buttonville School Board is apparently doing so well that the annual meetings come and go with scarcely a ripple among local residents. At the meeting held Wednesday of last week at the school, S. R. Patterson and Wm. Hood were willing to continue to the end of their terms, and Jack Harrott was re-elected for a third term. These gentlemen, with Mr. Walter Craig, secretary, warrant our full support. They have taken their responsibility seriously, making Buttonville School one of the best in York County. The Inspector's report bears nothing but praise, and the teaching staff, while operating under special difficulty of late, is highly commended. The financial report, too, was excellent.

**1959 IN REVIEW**  
Glancing back over 1959 Buttonville News clippings, certain facts stand out — 1959 was a year of extreme cold, with a low of 23 degrees below zero recorded early in March; extraordinarily high winds were damaging, as were three record ice storms. Spring was late, summer was long and hot and very dry, and autumn brought much needed rain, but crops were harvested early and were plentiful.

Provincial highway plans and the Canadian National Railway's proposed by-pass through Markham Township hampered township planners, and still do. Buttonville residents travel a great deal — far from being the quiet backwater Pierre Berton would have us, Buttonville people lead busy lives working for the Church, community and other local interests, not the least of which is curling.

In January the community lost Mrs. Rachel Walker, mother of Mrs. H. R. Paterson and lifelong resident here. Sympathy was also extended to Mr. Harold Wright in the death of his father.

Amid snow and bluster John Craig had pneumonia, Wesley Fierheller was ill with pleurisy, Patty Vaughan was in hospital with meningitis and Mrs. English's pupils had a holiday when she suffered a severe cold.

In February Mrs. Gordon Purves was elected to the Ontario Division of the Canadian Cancer Society board of directors, and was made chairman of District No. 12. Jim and Rosemary Miller welcomed their 4th son and the McQuays were pleased to have a visit from the former Hiea McQuay and her husband Thane Graves of Sacramento, California.

In February, night flying at Buttonville airport became noticeable for the first time, although there had been some activity earlier.

March brought the coldest night of the year; the Department of Agriculture began a Far Accident Survey; there were very high winds and the Ontario Municipal Board hearing on rezoning in the south-west sector of the Township was postponed (and still has not been decided.)

About this time, too, Janet Oakes and Sammy Snider said their wedding vows, and during the winter months the neighbors headed toward sunshine and the south and returned to a very chilly homeland. The Waltons spent the winter at Lakeland, Florida; Jack and Gertrude Robinson, the John Wilkins, Milt and Mary Sherman, the Alick Gardners, Aubrey and Arena Stephenson all made trips early in the year; Mr. and Mrs. William Gramain spent the latter part of the winter in southern Florida, Mr. and Mrs. John Wilkins made a return trip at Easter, and Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Morley visited New Orleans. Later the McTav-

ishes and Kedwells went to Jamaica.

In April Mr. McGimpsey and Mr. E. Hill were hospital visitors; Mrs. Purves was received at the Lieutenant Governor's suite and Rev. and Mrs. A. F. Binnington became grandparents. Derek Maw and Linda Lemon were married; the Bryce Jacksies greeted their new son; Mrs. A. W. Miller broke her wrist hurrying to church on Easter Sunday morning, and Mrs. Wm. Graham was in hospital following a virus infection. The season was very late with no-one on the land until the last week in April.

It was April when Rae and Betty Donaldson and Mary Lynn Snider moved to Buttonville, and April when a church pro-convict was apprehended but not convicted. In April, too, the Junior Farmers put on a good variety show, and Joy Sherman set out with a friend for a tour of the British Isles and Europe.

Through all this time the Buttonville W.I. held quiltings, served banquets and wedding suppers, cleaned the W.I. Hall and were generally busy.

In May the Seaway opened; measles and flu were rampant; Mr. Cline Burr was guest of honour at a party on his 89th birthday; University graduates were Bob Miller, Ross Baker and Grace Rodick. Lynda Leaf received her R.N. from the Wellesley School of Nursing, and Marie Maw completed Toronto Teachers College.

Radar at Buttonville caught many unwary motorists; the A. W. Millers' barn was struck, stunning the cattle and knocking out the electricity. Mrs. Seerett suffered a stroke; Mr. W. Turner went to the Weston Sanatorium, Rev. A. F. Binnington suffered a heart attack and there was much new building at Arnel Heights.

In June there were twins for the Bill Sutherlands; the local school tax rate was lowered; the hay crop was heavy and wheat heads were nodding. Buttonville W.I. members outdid themselves at the Strawberry Festival; Mrs. English's music pupils delighted parents and friends at their piano recital. Mrs. Robert Rodick received friends on her 96th birthday; Mr. Crisp returned to work following a session in hospital and Mr. and Mrs. Murray made the school children very sad by announcing they were moving to Elliott Lake.

In July, Reeve and Mrs. Wm. Clark were invited to meet the Queen, and Mrs. Gordon Purves was among Red Cross workers reviewed by Her Majesty. Barrie Milne and Blenda Taylor were married; Markham Township police were kept busy with traffic accidents in this locality; Marian and Jack Stephenson and Tommy of Taco, Saskatchewan, paid a surprise visit to Marlan's family here; the church at Brown's Corners was flooded, and Rebecca Sisler was awarded a commission from the Toronto Art Gallery for a piece of Sculpture.

By August the neighbours were busy receiving guests and holidaying. Mr. and Mrs. Bert Craigie packed their family in the car and motored to the Maritimes to visit Ruby's parents. Mrs. Beth Laing of Winnipeg visited her brother and his family, Mr. and Mrs. George Oakes and enjoyed a motor trip to Western Ontario with them. The Gardners had a relative visit them from Yorkshire, England, Dr. and Mrs. Geo. Kelly Jr. were east coast visitors.

Ross Baker and Lois Moorthy were married in the Stouffville United Church; Sandra Lynn Brumwell arrived at the Gordon Brumwell home; John Craig joined the Navy; harvest was finished early, and there was a rash of fires which fortunately did little damage.

September brought the exodus to schools around the country and city. Betty Patterson and Irene Walters commenced study at Teachers College, Irene on an award from the Ontario Teachers Federation; Don Gohn who had been teaching at Victoria Square, left that position to continue studying at the Ontario College of Education, taking shop work; and Bob Miller went to the University of Toronto for post graduate work.

At Buttonville School, Mr. Howard Atkinson of Agincourt was the highly recommended new principal, Mrs. Helfenstein was the junior room and Miss Ruth Hansford was commencing her third year as teacher of grades 3, 4 and 5. On September 17 it was learned with stunning shock that death had come to Miss Hansford while she prepared for school. In the midst of sorrow, life and school lessons go on, and so it was that Mrs. Meyer was engaged for the intermediate room and we welcomed her to our midst.

In September, too, there was a new granddaughter for Mr. and Mrs. Dick Jones; a son for Ray and Mary Grant, being a grandson for Mr. and Mrs. Andy Grant and Mr. and Mrs. J. Gough; and of course, the Leaf's house was moved from its century-old moorings further back

on the lot out of harm's way. By October the rumblings of the C.N.R. by-pass crossing became positive, and expropriations of certain properties were made and tripods appeared marking the route below John Street.

Mr. Wilson, who had suffered a heart attack in September, was around again, but Mr. Harold Wright recovered slowly from a virus infection. Grover Cast Stone completed a new structure for expansion of their business, the Harold Vaughan family was given a house-warming in their new Arnel Heights home; Mr. George Arnold Sr., returned to the store after a summer's enforced rest; and Douglas Sherman and June Lashon became man and wife.

At Markham Fair, Buttonville W.I. took first prize in the W.I. displays, and Pralet Gardens took many vegetable prizes. Also many exhibitors learned to their sorrow that thieves were abroad ready to pick up any loose articles. Condolences were proffered to the family of Mr. Harold Cunningham who died this month, and to Mr. Harold Steffler who lost his mother.

Ken and Connie Stephenson welcomed a little girl, Laurel Louisa; and the Buttonville W.I. fashion-show was a huge success.

November was Sector month for the Brown's Corners Church and members were entertained at a dinner catered for by the Buttonville W.I. Later, funds were raised to commence a building project, and this was successful beyond hopes.

This month there was good hunting; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Terry sold their home and prepared to leave for Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Reid celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary; Buttonville School Parents' Club had a good start, and Mrs. B. K. Wilson returned from hospital very ill and with news that was not good.

The Gardners took a trip to British Columbia toward the end of November, and Milford Stots and Esther Watton were married in Donlands Church, Toronto. It was in November also that Mrs. Ken Stots had a narrow escape from serious injury when she was knocked down by a car on Don Mills Road one dark night.

December brought much sadness to families in the neighborhood. Mr. Williams died suddenly while campaigning for school board; Mrs. Tweedle Sr. and Mrs. B. K. Wilson passed away early in December. Mr. Ross and Mr. E. Crisp were hospital patients and many neighbours had flu and severe colds.

During the early part of the month Mr. Harold Wright was in Newfoundland on business and the Wm. Clark family, and the Hood family prepared for weddings which took place at Christmas time.

To wind up the year came the worst ice storm on record, with power and telephone lines out of commission for a length of time varying from 18 hours to a week. Thus endeth 1959. Next week-we'd like to take a look at what the past decade did to Buttonville.

Another way to reduce juvenile delinquency sharply would be to quit coddling hard-bolled eggs.

Then there was the fellow who lost his job because he did not know the tricks of the trade. He was a magician.

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