

Over 400 Attended Opening of Metro Conservation Pioneer Village Project

Vice-regal pomp and ceremony blended with early 19th century pioneer costume and trappings to mark the official dedication of the Pioneer Village being developed by the Metropolitan Toronto & Region Conservation Authority.

Dedication ceremonies were highlighted by the participation of His Honor, Lieutenant Governor J. Keller Mackay who climaxed the dedication by planting a 15-foot spreading chestnut tree beside the blacksmith shop built in 1855.

More than 400 persons attended today's ceremonies which also saw the official opening of the 85-acre Black Creek Conservation Area in which the Pioneer Village is located. The area and village are now open to the general public.

Presiding at the dedication was Reeve Dorothy Hague of Swansea, chairman of the MTRCA's historic sites advisory board. Greetings were brought by T.A.C. Tyrrell, deputy minister of the Dept. of Planning & Development; Metro Chairman F. G. Gardiner, North York T.P. reeve Norman Goodhead, Vaughan Township Reeve J. Perry, and Dr. Ross Lord, P. Eng., Authority Chairman.

In his address, Lieut. Governor Mackay described the development of the village as "a great and noble enterprise". It was fitting and proper, he said, that "we should know and remember our pioneer background, and teach our children about the trials and unflinching faith of those sturdy antecedents who laid the foundation for our way of life."

In congratulating the Authority for its work in developing the Pioneer Village, he said "it would serve to perpetuate the inspiration of the pioneer settlers' handiwork and illustrate the heritage in which we walk."

During today's tree planting ceremony, A. H. Richardson, P. Eng., chief conservation engineer, Dept. of Planning & Development, and a former chairman of the Authority, unveiled a stone tablet commemorating the occasion.

Text on the tablet reads: "This tree was planted by the Honorable J. Keller Mackay, DSO, VD, L.L.D., the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, on the occasion of the dedication of the Pioneer Village, June 2, 1960."

A tour of inspection of the 11 buildings already established on the site was carried out. The tour included the blacksmith's shop, artisan's residence, exterior of the Lasky emporium, log grain barn, settler's first house, log piggery, smoke house, two-storey log house, squire's house and the Dalziel barn and museum.

In his remarks, Dr. Lord read a public notice printed in 19th century type and language style on an 1825 Washington printing press which has been set up in the Village, and which is expected to print a Village newspaper. Dr. Lord noted that all buildings to be established in the Village had to predate 1867 in age.

Invocation at the opening of the ceremony was pronounced by the Venerable A. C. McCollum, Anglican archdeacon emeritus and former rector of Saint John's Church, York Mills.

Response to Museum Requests are Good

Mr. Milton Parkin attended a meeting of executive and Museum Committee in the Pickering Township Museum building at Brougham last week, accompanying his visit with a truck load of materials, including chairs in which members could sit at meetings in the then empty schoolhouse, which will be opened as an exhibition hall this summer.

Mr. Parkin unloaded a work bench, hand hewn from large timbers in the distant past, and donated by James Compton, of Ashburn. On it will rest a display of old tools used in the long ago. A large hand-made mall was brought to the Museum to accompany the bench.

Among other things that Mr. Parkin brought last week was a whiskey jug, which has obviously been used to sit on an ancient table to hold a candle in a by-gone era. A large, hand-made dough box was another part of his contribution.

In response to publicized requests for various pieces for the Museum, many phone calls have ensued, and articles promised and suggested. Among them were showcases from the store of Mr. and Mrs. Shmitt, 340 Albert St., Oshawa, which have already been secured.

Popular Accessory in the Past Mrs. K. H. J. Clarke, in charge of household furnishings for the log cabin, and with Pickering Women's Institute, of the Pioneer display in the museum

building, brought to the meeting last week a stereopticon. It will rest on a table used in the Victorian era, with its supply of slides beside it. In the late 19th century, few homes were without this form of entertainment — viewing slides through a double lens which made the pictures of buildings, gardens, women in voluminous gowns, appear in third dimension.

Will Not Close Road West of Clarendon

Pickering Twp. Council has refused to alter its stand on the closing of roads within the municipality. On Monday evening, they turned down a request from Mr. C. R. Osler that a sideline between lots 8 and 9, conc. 9 should be closed as a deterrent to hunters and trespassers.

Mr. Osler, in a letter to Council, stated that one cow in the area had already been shot and the property was continually being used by poachers. He asked that a gate be erected.

Reeve Sherman Scott suggested that the owner should erect "No Trespassing" signs and then take the necessary action.

Dep-Reeve, Ross Hawthorne contended that a gate would present little deterrent to trespassing.

Greenwood Centennial To Be Marked June 18

On June 18, 1960, Greenwood will celebrate its school's 100th birthday. Going back in history we find that in 1851 the trustees of S.S.9 purchased one-quarter acre of land from Yeoman Jas. G. Demorest for \$10 currency. The old document reads, Feb. 24, 1851. One quarter acre land, Township Pickering, County York, Province of Canada. Reading this, historically minded people will see a puzzle easily solved. A log school was built of hand hewn logs from surrounding bush.

This soon outgrew the thriving community, and in 1860, an additional quarter-acre was purchased from the Demorest farm, then owned by Mr. Jackson. A new brick school was built, and it is this lady of learning we pay tribute to on June 18. We are proud of its bell, as for years people have said it has the clearest tone and is one of the best public school bells around. That can rightly be, as it once graced the belfry of St. James Church, Toronto. It came by schooner to Frenchman's Bay to be hauled over road and through bush to Greenwood.

Some changes have been made throughout the years. We now boast a modern furnace and a fine basement. In 1911 more land from the original Demorest farm was purchased from Mr. Alfred Trimble. The trustees throughout the years have been good stewards and on this occasion find a treasurer well preserved, in old minute books dating back to 1858.

When the old boys and girls come back to their old home village, they will find many changes. There will be little left to remind them of the stories their parents and grandparents told them. Years ago Greenwood was a busy pioneer settlement. Flour mills, sawmills and distilleries clustered along Duffin's Creek to take

their power from the dams and sluiceways. One by one these industrious businesses disappeared. The last flour mill ceased about a quarter of a century ago when fire consumed this link with a past era.

Storms and floods have washed away the old mill race that gave to Greenwood one of the most beautiful walks to be found in this glorious country. Until quite recently we still had our jolly blacksmith who retired to Oshawa last Christmas. The shop is boarded up now where until recently you could visit for a friendly chat with Walter Wilson, listen to his anvil chorus and breathe the sooty air laden with stories of generations.

The history of Greenwood has been preserved for this occasion. Records, deeds and legends have been reviewed until a book has emerged to be ready for our Centennial. Many reunions will take place, many friendships rekindled. As the old girls and boys sit in that quiet which comes at the end of a perfect day, may they lift their eyes to the everlasting hills and feel God's blessing falling on them as once again they make their way back out of their valley to their homes beyond.

—Mrs. E. Trimble

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The Stouffville Tribune



By C. A. Dean, M.D.
MEDICAL: A 23-year-old woman recently found she was seeing two lines instead of one while reading a book. Soon after, she noticed drooping of her eyelids. It was natural to think her eyes were at fault and she visited the eye doctor. Glasses were prescribed which helped her read better, but the double vision and drooping of the lids persisted.

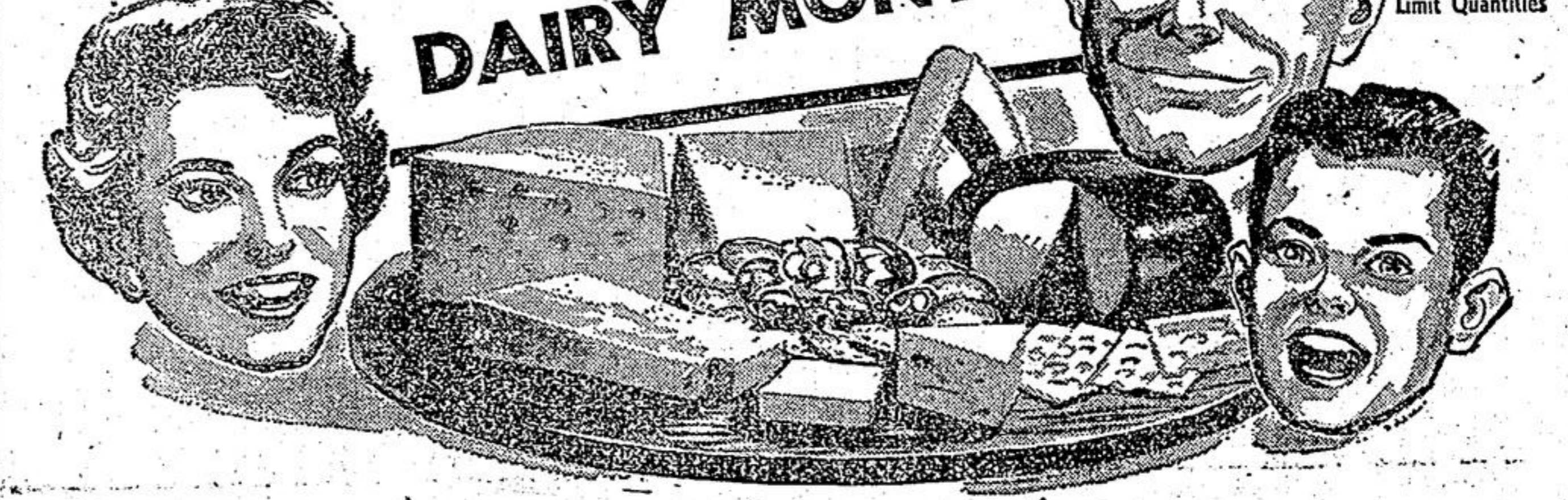
Next she noticed a change in her voice, then difficulty chewing and swallowing food. Weakness of her arms and legs developed, especially late in the day. Combing her hair became a major effort and walking up stairs was difficult. When these severe symptoms began, she saw the doctor.

This is a typical history of a patient who has developed a mysterious disease of muscular weakness, myasthenia gravis. This was once thought to be rare but new evidence indicates that it may be far more prevalent than supposed. There are almost 100,000 victims of myasthenia gravis in this country alone. Young women and older men are more prone to develop this disease.

The cause is not known although there seems to be an upset in the chemical balance at the point where the nerves join the muscles. Thus the nerve impulses do not excite the muscles as they should, with varying degrees of weakness resulting.

The onset of myasthenia is usually slow. Some of the muscles that become involved early in the illness are those of the eyeballs (double vision), eyelids (drooping), throat, vocal cords, jaws, arms and legs. This disease may go unrecognized for a long time and may resemble chronic fatigue or another chronic disease.

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