



Early Arrivals

Twin Suffolk lambs made a pre-schedule arrival at the farm of Mr. Donald Hope, near Glasgow in Uxbridge Township last week. It is the earliest birth to be reported to The Tribune so far this winter. Six year old David Hope and his 3 year old sister Kathy keep a tight hold on the lively youngsters. —Staff Photo

Turn Down Move To Have Elected High School Trustees

By a vote of 18 to 6, the York County Council has rejected a resolution that would require all High School trustees to be elected rather than appointed. The matter was discussed at considerable length at a County Council session last week. Deputy-Reeve, Kenneth Laushway of Stouffville was one who expressed opposition to the motion. Speaking for Stouffville, Mr. Laushway stated that his municipality was satisfied with the present system of appointment.

Deputy-Reeve R. J. Henderson of Woodbridge suggested that there was some indication in a number of municipalities that the present appointed trustees showed a lack of control over expenditures. Deputy-Reeve, Caroline Ion of Newmarket also favored the election of officials for the posts. She was opposed by her Council partner, Reeve P. S. Legge. Mr. Rutherford of Vaughan contended that the Teachers' Federation was a very strong Union and he expressed doubt that elected board personnel would strengthen the trustee's position. Warden J. V. Fry said that he was satisfied with the present system and would not support the resolution. Mr. Sellers of Sutton suggested that many good trustees, now serving on High School boards by appointment, would decline to stand for election. Reeve Clarence, Davis of Aurora argued that many persons had no time for electioneering and their valued services would then be lost.

A vote of 18 to 6 against the resolution, shelved the subject for the present. The County appointment for the Stouffville Dist. High School Board is Mr. Gordon Ratcliff.

Expect Local Residents to Make 1200 Phone Calls on Two Holidays

It is estimated that more than 1,200 long-distance telephone calls will be made by Stouffville residents during the two holidays of Christmas and New Years. On Christmas Day alone, the total surpassed the 600 mark and an equal number is expected on New Year's Day. Miss M. E. Burgess told The Tribune that overseas calls are not unusual during these periods. Specific points of location are not tabulated by Stouffville operators since all such calls are switched through to Toronto long distance. She recalled that last year, one call was completed to Japan. Twenty-two operators were on duty in Stouffville on Christmas Day.

According to Bell Telephone

officials here, the expected increase in the volume of long distance calls is due largely to a trend toward calling over greater distances. This trend was given a further boost last month when the Bell company introduced lower-cost long distance calling rates.

Objects to Council Acting on Requests From Employees

Councillor Chas. Hooper objected strenuously on Monday to Markham Township council taking any orders or recommendations from employees. "I'm opposed to any township employee bringing in a recommendation on his own in the dying moments of council," said Mr. Hooper.

The issue arose when Engineer Mikalis spoke to council regarding the purchase of another sand spreader. He said the request was urgent and asked council to authorize the calling of tenders. He said that a number of new streets had been added and it was impossible to give service with the present equipment. The cost, he said, would be about \$2500, and would be subject to subsidy.

Councillor Hooper said that any such recommendation should come from the Road Committee before he would approve of it.

Councillor Allan Sumner backed the engineer. He said, "If the equipment is necessary, in the opinion of the Engineer, council should act."

"Would you buy another truck, too, on his request?" replied councillor Hooper. Engineer Mikalis had said he thought council should buy another truck in 1962.

However, councillor Hooper could not get a seconder for his motion to lay the matter over for council in 1962, and Councillors Sumner, Watson and deputy-revee Mumberson supported the Engineer's request and tenders will be called.

Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Gordon and girls motored to Florida for the Christmas holidays.

Ten Liquor Seizures in Markham Village

The Markham Village Police Department was kept busy over the Christmas holiday weekend. A total of ten liquor seizures were made, the majority involving teenagers. Charges have been laid and the accused will be arraigned in court, either at Newmarket or Richmond Hill.

Police Chief Fred White told The Tribune that in addition to the liquor offences, his department investigated three accidents. One collision resulted in heavy damage. One driver was charged with failing to remain.

P.C. Hugh VanKoughnet of Stouffville reported a quiet holiday period. The same was reported from Markham Township where only three minor accidents were investigated and there were no liquor seizures.

Christmas visitors with Mrs. B. Wiancko and Eldon, of Hawthorne Ave., were her son Reford, Mrs. Wiancko and three children from Don Mills and her sister Mrs. John Lehman. Her daughter, Margaret, Mrs. Wm. Barnes and children Christina, Valerie, George and Dianne of Bliss, N.Y., arrived on Sunday and spent the Christmas holidays with her mother.

Curling Schedule To Begin Jan. 3

The "Rolling Hills" Men's Curling League, comprising 64 local curlers, will open its schedule on Wednesday evening, Jan. 3rd. There will be two draws — from 7-9 p.m. and 9-11 p.m. There will be sixteen teams with four members per team including a skip and a vice skip.

The Ladies League will also open on January 3rd at 2 p.m. There are still some vacancies and additional members are welcome.

The Rolling Hills Club is located on conc. 5, Whitchurch, near Bethesda.

Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Button, son and daughter, are holidaying this week in Bermuda.

Mt. Pleasant Section To Cancel Contract With Claremont Board

Two Trustees Submit Resignations

The agreement between the Mount Pleasant Public School Board and the Claremont Trustees to educate the pupils from S.S. No. 12, Pickering Township will be terminated at the end of the June term, 1962, according to a majority vote of the Mt. Pleasant ratepayers at their annual meeting on Wednesday night.

The contract with Rural Bus Lines of Brougham will also be cancelled at the same time. In a fast-moving chain of events, two Board members submitted their resignations, including the Chairman, Mr. Lloyd Pugh and Mr. Roy Wilson. Neither was up for election since their terms had not expired. A third member, Allan Murray was replaced by Russell Gostick. A special meeting will be called to fill the two vacancies.

Kept Too Quiet
Mr. Hugh Miller, a ratepayer, suggested that the Board's plan, last spring, to close the section's century-old schoolhouse had been kept too quiet. He contended that few people knew of the scheme until the agreement with Claremont had been finalized.

Mr. Grenfell Wilson, another ratepayer argued that any matter of such major importance should have been aired at a public meeting rather than shouldered solely by the trustees and the Inspector. "There would be better feeling in the section today if the entire issue had been brought out into the open," he said.

The Chairman, Mr. Pugh said that the Board had not received a single complaint from parents since the change-over to Claremont had been made in September. He admitted that the trustees, to a great extent, had followed the advice of the Inspector, Mr. J. C. McClelland. "It looked so good to us that we didn't think a meeting was necessary," he said. He informed the gathering that the Board could advertise for a teacher and the Mt. Pleasant school could be reopened in September.

Criticize Inspector
Mr. Miller suggested that the

Secretary of the Board should write a letter to the Inspector, on behalf of the ratepayers, criticizing his recommendations concerning the education program in the section. "He deceived both the ratepayers and the trustees," he said.

"He pulled the wool over some people's eyes," stated Mr. Ken Madill.

The Chairman agreed that the Inspector had indicated to the Board that there was a shortage of qualified teachers for rural schools. "He was fooled," he said. Mr. Pugh said that all three trustees were in complete agreement concerning the move. A motion to re-open the Mt. Pleasant school for the September term was approved. Mr. Pugh warned that a change-back could possibly result in a three-mill tax increase in the section.

Bounced Around
Mr. Miller suggested that the Claremont Board could cancel the contract with the Mt. Pleasant trustees at any time. "The children could be bounced around from school to school," he warned.

Some parents contended that the present bus transportation system was too early for the pupils in the morning. "It's too much like stock-shipping," said Grenfell Wilson. Fifteen Mount Pleasant students are transported to Claremont daily and brought home in the afternoon.

Orderly Meeting
In spite of the seriousness of the ratepayers' proposals, the two-hour meeting was conducted in an orderly manner. Sixteen persons were present. In defence of the present system, Mr. Robt. Jackson, a ratepayer, argued that the Mt. Pleasant pupils, to his knowledge, had progressed quite favorably at the Claremont school. "Sometimes we lay too much blame on the teachers," he said. He expressed some doubt that a qualified instructor would be willing to accept a position in a school that had very few modern conveniences and was "fifty years behind the times." Some others felt that there would be no shortage of applicants.

40% of Brigade Calls To Whitchurch Twp.

Stouffville firemen were kept extremely busy during 1961. In the past year, the brigade answered a total of fifty calls. They had only 3 in 1960.

The Stouffville unit was summoned into Whitchurch Township to extinguish 21 fires, or forty percent of the total calls. There were only 13 outbreaks in Whitchurch during 1960. Other figures for '61 are as follows: Stouffville—13; Markham Township—11; Uxbridge Township—5 and Pickering Township none.

Grass fires were responsible for the major share of Stouffville brigade calls. There were 18 blazes of this type. Other fires included buildings—15; chimneys—7; oil burners—6; vehicles—4.

Dismiss Liquor Charges Against Lake Residents

Liquor charges, filed against 2 Musselman's Lake residents, Mr. Geo. Villemere and his daughter, Mrs. Una Spears have been dismissed, according to Mr. Villemere, in conversation with The Tribune last week. The officers in charge of the case were not immediately available for comment.

The lengthy list of charges which extended over a long court period, were finally completed on Dec. 4th. Additional charges against nineteen defendants were also dismissed or withdrawn. The accused were represented by Mr. Irving Himel of Toronto.

2-Cent Stamp Sales Reach 136,000

Two-cent stamp sales at the Stouffville Post Office during the pre-Christmas period have been estimated at 136,000, according to Postmaster Jack Sanders.

This figure is almost 7,000 ahead of the sales in 1960. Mr. Sanders says that the increase was partially due to the handy packages of 50 stamps, made available to the public for the first time this year.

Mr. Sanders has credited the smooth distribution of Christmas mail locally to his experienced staff and the co-operation of the public in bundling their cards into separate town and out-of-town packages.

Clarification Asked In Dog Case

Oliver Pellett, assistant to the Law Enforcement Officer, attended Whitchurch Twp. council Friday night requesting that the case of unpaid dog tax be taken into court against Mrs. Gladys Coates. He stated the case had already been to court but under the name Mrs. Hutton. He said that this was the name on the lady's mailbox and driving license, but in court she had denied being Mrs. Coates.

Reeve Wallwork and Deputy-Reeve Frank Williams had appeared as witnesses for the township.

Magistrate Kelly suggested that the case be clarified as regards identification and had declared an adjournment until Jan. 11th.

Protest Rise In Taxes

The Hovela Recreation and Sports Club which operates at lots 32 and 33, 8th concession of Whitchurch, near Vivian, has protested to council on the increase in their 1961 taxes from \$800 to \$1200.

The Club contends that as the cottages at the club are only used in the summer months, no school problem is created, and therefore should not bear such a tax.

Clerk Jack Crawford drew attention to the increase in the number of cottages, both completed and in course of construction accounting for the increase. As regards school tax, he said that this was a provincial matter and council had no power to grant any exemption.

ENGAGEMENT

The engagement is announced of Miss Barbara-Ann Parker, daughter of Mrs. Thomas Arthur Parker and the late Mr. Parker to Mr. John David Mairs, son of Mrs. Dean L. Mairs and the late Mr. Mairs, Brougham, Ont. The wedding to take place on Jan. 27, 1962, in Dublin St. United Church, Guelph, Ont.

Aged Recluse Found Dead in Secluded Whitchurch Twp. Home



The body of William Linton, aged recluse, was discovered last week, at his home located in a remote area on the 6th concession of Whitchurch Twp. It is believed that Mr. Linton who was in his 90th year, had been dead for some days.

Mr. Linton was born in Aurora, attended public school there and spent his entire life-time since then in the township. He had lived in his one-room shack which replaced a frame shack that was burned down and rebuilt for him by neighbors on several occasions.

Deceased suffered the loss of his left leg some years ago and moved about with the aid of crutches since that time. His only companions have been a herd of goats, and his chief diet, he told the Tribune in an interview several years ago, was honey, fruit and goat's milk. Mr. Linton was owner of a large tract of township bushland, as well as some acres of blow sand. A great deal of his land was disposed of some time ago to Jas. Sabiston of Unionville. The property was used as well as a tank training area by the Department of National Defense.

He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Linton of Aurora, and as an eccentric, he

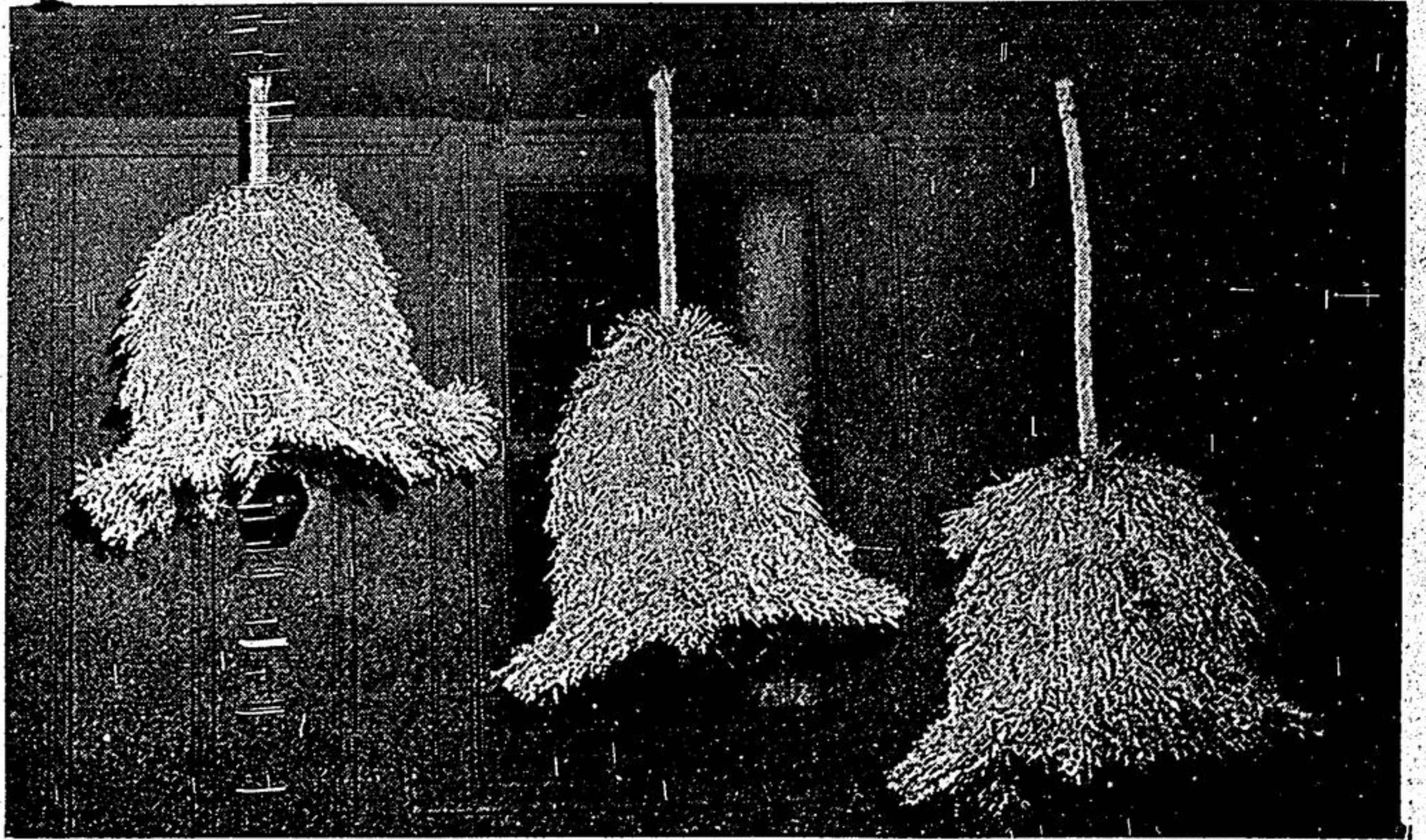
was known by hundreds of residents throughout the township and nearby towns. The last few years, urban development has begun to crowd in on his secluded area, and the extension of the 6th-concession placed modern-day travel within a few feet of his shack.

The funeral on Saturday, was conducted from the Thompson Funeral Home, Aurora, with interment in Aurora Cemetery.

Present Reeve With Chair

Reeve Ken Wagg of Stouffville, who will be leaving the council board this year, was honoured at the final meeting of council Thursday evening, with the presentation of a lounge chair rocker. The presentation was made by Deputy-Reeve Ken Laushway, at the conclusion of the evening's business, and all members expressed their pleasure at having served under Mr. Wagg's chairmanship.

The evening concluded with refreshments, served in the municipal board room by the deputy-reeve and Mrs. Laushway.



The Three Bells

The three bells, a fine example of home-made handiwork, hang from the entrance

of the bungalow home of Dr. and Mrs. Blair Mitchell, Rupert Ave., Stouffville. Created

by Mrs. Mitchell, using a wire mesh and spray-painted cedar boughs, the eye-catching

Christmas decorations have attracted much local interest. —Staff Photo

A Happy New Year Is Extended To One And All