

# Editorial

## Two Fine Works

Two of the finest pieces of public service conducted in Stouffville, are the public speaking contest and the music festival, both the work of the local Lions Club. The oratorical contest carried on now for some years, has been a real help to the high school in providing a platform for the development of this fine talent. As we have pointed out in this column many times in the past, there is nothing from which a student, once grown up, can take more satisfaction, than the ability to get up and express himself fluently before his fellows. It is not something which all can do, but a great many are blessed with this talent which only needs a little development and encouragement to bring out. The Lions Club contests

have been a big help in this development.

To add further to their service in the arts field, the Lions last year held their first music festival. The response was most encouraging and this year's festival, now in progress will have more than two thousand children competing, including choirs. In Stouffville and vicinity, as in every community, there is a great deal of musical talent that only needs an opportunity to be expressed. This Lions project is providing just such an opportunity.

Both these projects take considerable time, interest and effort on behalf of club members as well as others, and they are two of the finest pieces of service work carried on in the community.

## Day Of The Old Type Pen Is Gone

The old fashioned nib pens which have been used in post office lobbies for many years, have seen their last days. Postmaster General the Hon. William Hamilton announced recently that the nib pens being used on lobby counters in post offices are to be replaced by modern ball-point pens. A few days ago, these new pens arrived at the Stouffville office and are now in use.

After a long period of experimenting with various types of writing equipment the decision was made for all pens in larger offices to be replaced. Mr. Hamilton in his announcement stated that for some time it had been realized the old style pens were outdated and in many cases useless.

The new pens are black and gold and equipped with a 24 inch chain for attaching to the counter to discourage borrowing by absent-minded patrons.

The Postmaster General recalled amusingly, some of the uses served by the old pens. He recalled lobby "dart games", the ease with which patrons could cover their hands with ink and make addresses and names quite indecipherable. He expressed hope that the modern pens would not only eliminate many of the problems faced by post office patrons but that they would also preserve the postal service from the indignation of many patrons who emerged second-best from an encounter with the old-time nibs.

## Church Spirit

The curtailment of a Sunday church schedule is not an earth-shaking piece of local news. The closing of a church building for lack of attendance is not too uncommon. When a closed church re-opens its doors and once again takes its place in a community, then we feel there is justification for editorial comment. This is what has happened in the hamlet of Lemonville.

Under the spiritual leadership of

a student, minister, Edward McCrea and the enthusiastic assistance of dedicated rural residents, the Lemonville United Church has come out of religious retirement. With a "working" membership of 26, this small but overly active congregation is determined that no permanent padlock will ever be placed on the church doors again. This is indeed a proud accomplishment. With this type of church spirit, the congregation must surely prosper.

## A Generous Gift

Outfitting a hockey club, regardless of classification is an expensive proposition. Every so often, the local Minor Hockey Association is faced with such a problem. It can mean an expenditure of several hundreds of dollars, a figure that is not too rapidly returned from receipts of the turnstiles. With this thought in mind, Mr. Walter D. Atkinson performed a very fine community spirited act recently, when he generously presented the Stouffville peewee team with a complete set of uniforms, including sweaters, stockings and pants. In this new attire, the club

made its debut last week and a smarter looking group of boys have never skated on Stouffville ice.

Mr. Atkinson has no sons playing on the team. He is not part of the club management nor a member of the association. He is not seeking any personal recognition or fanfare, in fact the whole matter has been given very little publicity. Although this may be Mr. Atkinson's wish, we feel that it should not be permitted to pass without a written word of appreciation. We know that we speak for every proud player on the club along with their coach and manager.

## FOR PARENTS ONLY

by Nancy Cleaver

### WHEN A CHILD MAKES A MISTAKE

Parents must ever keep in mind the fact that their children, being human, will make mistakes, and they should concern themselves with their own behavior when confronted with a child's mistake. What happens in your home when your child blunders? There are numerous incidents every day. Books are left on the stairs for someone to trip over, or the child helps himself to a bottle of milk in the refrigerator and spills some of it on the floor trying to pour it into a glass. The radio is left blaring with no one in the house and a tube burns out.

Incidents such as these are very trying in every household, and the desire to blame the person who makes the mistake is a very natural one. But it is more constructive to ask two questions about any mistake: "How did it happen?" and "What can be done about it?" In asking "How did it happen?" a parent often can chart a course to prevent it happening again. So can a boy or girl. But let a youngster do his own thinking and come to his own conclusions. A Family Council is a good place to discuss how repeating careless blunders can be avoided.

"What can be done about it?" is a sound question, too. It suggests that it is better for a child to take responsibility for his

actions, and do what he can to rectify a mistake than to make excuses and fall to make amends. The older generation often complains that younger people are not responsible. Perhaps parents do not let them face the consequences of their actions. If they have made mistakes, let them do what they can to make up for their errors.

At the same time, no one, young or old, gains experience without making blunders. Parents must constantly remember that everyone is bound to make mistakes. A lot of mistakes are sure to be made, but children must be taught never to repeat their mistakes. An error is excusable, but repeating it is stupid. With the necessary help from Mother and Dad, mistakes which have been made can be analyzed, and amends made, and this is called a "learning situation," an effort to aid the child in repeating it.

Mother and Dad should hope, not that their child should never make a mistake, but that the mistakes he makes are not serious. They should also trust an intelligent youngster not to make the same mistake twice. Conversely, a son or daughter should always feel free to discuss these mistakes with their parents.

Parents can encourage this by refraining from becoming angry when a child's error is brought to their attention. Every effort

must be made by parents to build confidence between parents and children, and this cannot be done if parents allow anger to dominate the situation. Anger does not make for happy family living, either. An emotional upset atmosphere with adults reproaching and children resenting, is anything but constructive.

The adolescent who gets into serious trouble with the rules of society or the law and who frantically refuses to confide in his parents is merely a youth who has received more than his share of blame at home and has received far too little understanding in his relations with his parents.

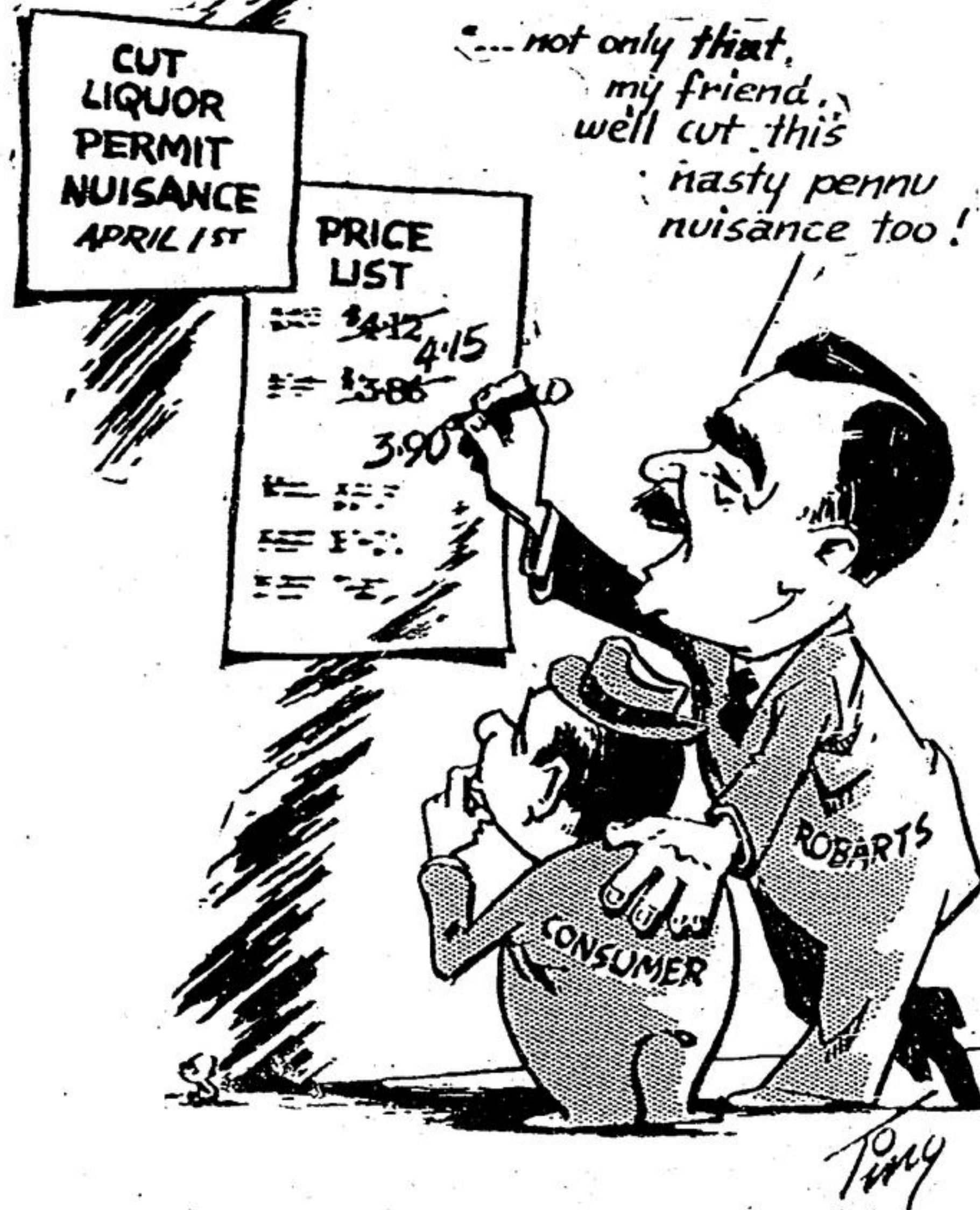
Bertram M. Beck, an authority on youth work, lecturing recently in Winnipeg, said that when a teen-ager makes a mistake which lands him in serious trouble, welfare organizations should have the funds to step in quickly with experts to help solve the mistake.

Is it not strange that adults who make so many blunders themselves, often expect perfection from their children? When it comes to your child's mistakes do remind yourself that it is human to make them. Give your child understanding, loving support, encouragement to face consequences. If this treatment is applied in time, it will help keep your child out of trouble. If applied when trouble rears its head, it may cause a reformation.

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No one really wants to "get even" with someone who has mistreated him. He wants to get considerably more than even with him.

## The "Cut-Rate" Store



## SUGAR and SPICE

By Bill Smiley

Have you noticed how the world is turning away from the idea that a hero must be a young man? For example, when the Yanks wanted to send somebody whistling around the world in one of those crazy capsules, they didn't choose some young punk of twenty-three.

Nossie! They picked Colonel John Glenn, a mature, intelligent, charming and handsome fellow of about my age. It's finally being realized that most men of our age possess these qualities, along with outstanding ability to handle a crisis under great stress.

As the years hurtle by, this has become gradually more evident to me—how excitable and nervous and erratic and just plain silly are young fellows; how calm, competent, poised, steady, reliable and sane are we more adult chaps.

Of course, I must admit it's just a matter of experience. The young fellow in his late teens or early twenties is inclined to panic when he confronts an unfamiliar situation. But for the middle-aged bird, there's no such thing. He's been through it, or something mighty like it.

The man who has been able to reach 40 without resorting to drugs, drink or divorce is a pretty valuable piece of humanity. He may not be able to accomplish some physical feats as quickly or easily as the young buck. But he can perform a lot more mental and social feats, and in the process he can last a whole lot longer and finish a good deal stronger.

I'd like to see, for example, the young fellow who could have stayed with me last Tuesday, and finished as fresh as I did. It was the day my daughter became 21. She'd been promised a birthday party. After the invitations were out, her mother realized that she had to take the other offspring to the city for a music festival, and would not be here to run the show.

Guess who? Right. I was it. Planner of games, judge of contests, master of ceremonies, setter of fights, caterer, and general party mother. And do you think I didn't handle all those roles with dignity, grace, charm and warmth, not to mention aplomb and insouciance? Dang right I did!

Take some young punk of 20 and let him try it. Let him take over a dozen wild, squealing, sweet, silly, giggling little girls. He'd run sobbing out of the house, calling for his mother, after 10 minutes of it.

I'd like to see him acting as judge for the twist contest we held. He'd probably have given the prize to the kid who could dance it best. A mature man would never do that. He'd give it to the shyest or the gawkiest, or his bank manager's daughter, or somebody useful.

I'd like to see that young fellow hustle up two dozen hot-dogs with the works, pour 24 glasses of ginger ale, whip the cream, serve the jello, light the candles and lead the singing and escape with nothing more than a few burned fingers, a couple of broken glasses, some wax on the tablecloth, and not enough nickels in the cake. He just couldn't do it. He'd be screaming for the Red Cross or somebody before he'd dashed out the first round of red-hot.

Now I'm not bragging or looking for praise. I'm merely pointing out a fact that is well known to all middle-aged men—that all middle-aged men are more diplomatic, tolerant, judicious and helpful in emergencies than are young men.

If this is the case, someone will ask, why is it that young women aren't battling to capture these paragons, instead of going around marrying young men all the time? And the casual observer will probably reply that it's because young men have hair on their heads and muscles in their bellies and music in their souls.

This, of course, is a superfluous view. As anyone who has pondered the whole business can easily see, the real reason is because these fine, middle-aged chaps, in the very prime and flower of their lives, are already in the toils of women who know how fortunate they are, and who are hanging on for dear life. After all, you don't get chaps like us out of grab bags.

To take care of industrial accidents in its Oshawa plants, General Motors of Canada has on staff two doctors, 10 nurses, a physio-therapist, an X-ray technician and seven first aid men.

## THE GOOD DRIVER

1. The Ontario Safety League reminds drivers that a train takes an average of 14 seconds to pass a level crossing, whether your car is on it or not.

2. Department of Transport statistics show that, in rural areas, 88% of the drivers involved in accidents in 1961 were classified as "Had Been Drinking," although not chargeable as being impaired. In urban areas, however, the IIDB group was 44%. There may be many factors to explain why the rate is twice as high in rural areas, says the Ontario Safety League. One of the obvious inferences is that the risk from a moderate consumption of alcohol increases sharply in the higher-speed conditions outside urban areas.

3. At 60 m.p.h. on an unlighted road on a dark night the visibility range of your headlights is about 200 feet. That's just two seconds away from any hidden hazard, says the Ontario Safety League. You couldn't stop in time. Always drive slower at night. Never "outride your headlights".

4. The Ontario Safety League reports an interesting development in Italy, aimed at reducing the danger arising from cars that break down on the highways. All motorists now are required to carry in their cars a one-foot high triangular red reflector. If a driver stops at night on any road outside the city, he is legally obliged to place this warning sign 50 yards back towards the traffic coming in his own lane.

5. Drivers should always slow down in snow conditions, and they should slow down still more when they approach a flashing blue light, says the Ontario Safety League. Blue flashers mean that a slow moving snow plough, or sander is up ahead. Not knowing, or ignoring this warning signal has led to many accidents.

6. Quote by the Ontario Safety League: "A motorist is a person who, after seeing a wreck, drives carefully for several blocks."



PHONE 152

The Stouffville Tribune

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# Way Back When..

Jan. 22, 1931

From Feb. 5 edition 1931

Extension of the Hydro line into the farming district east of Stouffville has progressed to such a stage that the current may be turned on this week. The line extends as far east as Atlanta. Messrs. Levi Forsyth and Wm. Reesor are the only two who have installed capacity for farm use but there are other farmers along the route, who are likely to hook up shortly.

The following information is compiled from newspaper files largely secured from the advertising columns.

Aug. 1896

Turning to St. Lawrence Market reports for Aug. 1896, one sees new laid eggs quoted at 3 and 10c a dozen, and butter 9 and 10c a pound. Creamery butter 12c. Ducks sold at 8c to 10c a pair, geese 6 to 8c a pound and chickens 40 to 60c a pr. Turkey sold at 8 to 11c and glutted the market on occasion at 5c a lb.

Potatoes 40 to 50c a bag, apples 40c to \$1.05 a barrel of 200 lbs. with better quality at \$2.50. Turnips 10c a doz. You could obtain the finest cuts of beef at 12 1/2c a pound. Other butchers advertised "choice meat" and veal at 4c a pound, and boiling beef at 2c a lb.; 8 and 10c was the cost of good sirloin steak. Breakfast bacon was 10c, ham 12c and sausage 7c a pound.

The best anthracite coal sold at \$5.75 a ton. Nut coal \$4.25 and maple cordwood at \$4 and \$5 a cord. Needless to say, the low prices of 1896 were coincident with very hard times and low wages in Toronto. Laborers received \$1.00 for a long day's work. In domestic service a skilled cook general was lucky to get \$10 a month.

January 28, 1931

Two rinks of local curlers played in the preliminary contest, Ontario Tankard, at Unionville last week and were successful in winning the District Trophy, thereby holding the right to represent district No. 13, when the big roundup takes place in Toronto. The local players were F. L. Button, skip, Milt Storey, J. Agnew, F. Rowbotham, Sam Armstrong (skip), Wm. Armstrong, Mervyn Watts and Henry Brillinger.

It was currently reported in town that another barber shop was to start operations here, thus bringing the number of shops up to four, something of a record for a place the size of Stouffville. In addition, there are two men in each shop now operating. Mr. Leonard Keeping, grandson-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. George Urquhart, has been employed in various shops and is anxious to establish himself here. Six men engaged in the barbering business in this place fifteen years ago would have been unthinkable, but since the trade has been increased twofold by the patronage of the ladies and girls, the six men now working are apparently doing very well.

Do you remember when the Congregational Church was on the south side of Main St. near Tenth St.? The church was a square wooden building with a heavy frame construction built from virgin pine by the late Rev. Ludvig Kribbs, who came to Stouffville as a missionary and organized a mission church in the very early days of Stouffville, in fact, 1842.

The organization meeting was held at the Mertens family home, just west of the village, where descendants of this pioneer family still live, and in the young church then constituted were representatives of a number of well known families. Including the Nicholls, Millards, Treacy's, Lehman's, Robinson's, Barnes, Blackies, Stennet's, Morris' Wideman's and Mertens.

Mr. Kribbs, the early missionary, was a competent carpenter as well as an eloquent preacher and personally supervised and executed the building of the church and also his parsonage adjoining, and the fact that both buildings were many years later taken apart and rebuilt on other sites, where they remain, testifies to the good workmanship that was originally expended on them.

The church building, after being vacated by the congregation when the brick church now occupied by the Christian church was built about 1875, was used for years as a community hall, later for a time as a roller-skating rink and finally as an implement warehouse; then about forty years ago was taken down and rebuilt without its sloping roof and bell tower, where it now stands over the creek on Dr. Freel's property and is occupied as stores for John Monkhouse and his neighbour John Chinaman.

The parsonage, after Mr. Kribbs left it, became the home of Dr. Freel Sr. and was the boyhood home of Dr. S. I. Freel, Dr. Ira and the other doctors in this well known medical family. The house was later renovated and rebuilt where it now stands on Mill St. just above Duchess St.

—Signed by "Oldtimer"

## FLOWERS

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Bouquets

Corsages



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