

# Story of Bloomington

(Continued from last week)

Baker now lives on the 48 Hwy. were traded for a team of sturdy oxen. Today tractors work the pioneers rolling acres and their grandchildren remain in the county woven into the stuff of other lives.

One particularly interesting item I would like to add especially for the boys. It is taken from a composition written by Elaine Baker about 1938. This information was derived from Elaine's grandfather, the remarkable Seneca Baker. It reads as follows: "It was about the year 1788, shortly after the American Revolution, that William Baker, my great, great, great grandfather and his family started for Canada. They were United Empire Loyalists, coming to Canada for security. Soon after they had started William found that he had left some important papers behind, so he went back leaving his family to wait for him at Niagara. But he never returned. The Indians probably scalped him. The Indians at that time were paid five dollars by the British for every rebel scalp they brought. They did not care whether the scalps were rebels or loyalists, as long as they were paid. And so many a lonely traveller suffered death." —All the teacher had to say to this most thrilling and dramatic part of the story was: "Prove this."

And now boys, get after your grandfathers and see if you can

dig up an equally exciting story.

Roads and Transportation  
Transportation was always Canada's main problem. Land, for instance, was priced entirely as to its location, not fertility. It was much more expensive if it was located on a road or river with great effort by the population and kept open in winter by shovelling snow. When snowed in too badly, farmers often drove right over the fields and fences with their sleighs. For the first settlers, however, there were no roads at all, only Indian trails. Often some of the early Bloomington settlers had to carry a bag of wheat on their backs all the way to Muddy Little York (Toronto) to have it ground and back again to their homes in the forest. Some time later they could afford to go on horseback. Yonge Street was built and some corduroy roads in the vicinity. Later on things still improved, when they could afford a buggy. But this much improved method of travelling also had its pitfalls: springtime often found their huggies stuck in the mud up to the axles and the passengers and horses heaving and pulling in the mire of the road. In the summertime you had to put up with the dust while travelling, because the roads had no dust layer.

By the way, if you wish to experience the roughness of corduroy road, or others, try to go up or down the Ninth on a fine spring day, especially the parts which are to be used at your own risk. This road seems to have preserved amazingly well its original conditions.

Gravel Pits

In dealing with the gravel pits we must turn into an enormous detour back to the ice age, to explain how the gravel got there, which always puzzled the boys.

Bloomington is situated on the southern slopes of the famous Oak Ridges moraine, which is the most distinctive physiographic unit north of Toronto. It is a typical interlobate moraine, that is one built between two opposing lobes of a glacier. Still simpler, the two arms of our glacier coming from the east (St. Lawrence Valley) and pushing west squeezed up this ridge between them. It is a bulky moraine, variable in width, which stretches for 100 miles from the Niagara Escarpment to the Trent River. It covers 500 sq. miles in area and rises up to 1400 ft. above sea level near Mono Mills. It narrows in places and there it is crossed by Highway 27, 7, 28 and 11. The crest of the moraine is mostly covered with sandhills and coarse outwash. Fine sand and even silt appears in some of the depressions and limestones can be found in the sandy and gravelly material on Sandhill, which some of the boys brought to school. The limestones were brought by the glacier from Trent and Black River. And thus today each handful of gravel reminds us of the marvels of God's creation.

The early pioneers soon discovered the gravel under their topsoil, but the need for this material arose when roads had to be built and kept in repair. Work on the roads was done by teams of farmers who shovelled the ditches by hand and levelled the road and gravel, which was brought by others with their teams of horses from the pit. This was called statute labour and each settler had to work a given number of days on the roads according to his assessment. It is believed that Joseph Walker and Seneca Baker started the pits on the sideroad west of Bloomington in about 1890 or before. One load of gravel cost 10¢ at that time. The sand from these pits was of course also used to build all the fine houses in Bloomington, which stand as a monument to its more glorious past.

Today most of the heavy traffic on the sideroad is caused by trucks taking their load from Gravel Hill on the Tenth to be washed at another plant on the sixth. The gravel pits are an important industry of the district giving work and an income to many residents. In fact it is the dream of many a little boy to become a gravel truck driver, when his eyes follow the dusty trucks disappearing in the distance.

(to be continued)

# On The Farm Front

Farmers and Agricultural Representatives alike are very keen these days on getting the greatest possible yields from good land. High yielding crops, like corn, high rates of fertilizer, expensive chemicals, and better machinery, are all used to get the last bushel or pound of feed per acre.

This is all good of course but I wonder sometimes if we neglect an important part of most farms. Almost every farm has some roughland, hillsides, wet spots or creek flats that are more or less written off as being hopeless. If all these poor bits of land in York County were added together, the total acreage would make us think about the things that could be done to make them yield something worthwhile.

The common reaction to this problem land is that it isn't worth any expense put on it. And yet good land gets money thrown at it fast and furiously. An acre of grain for example, gets plowed, cultivated many times, sprayed for weeds, combined and baled. Fertilizer often costs up to \$10 per acre. At average yields of oats, this acre will gross about \$35 to \$40.

An acre of roughland certainly won't gross this much, but if expenses are low, low yields might be profitable. Most of this land will grow grass. Left alone, it doesn't produce much. Often a shot of fertilizer will really pay well. I suggest that \$10 spent on fertilizer for old sod that has been neglected may well pay better than fertilizer going on spring grain.


If the sod is in fair shape, nitrogen alone will boost production. Urea or Ammonium Nitrate broadcast right now, at 150 to 200 lbs. per acre, is well worth a try. If the sod is poor, some Superphosphate and Muriate of Potash should be put on as well.

Weeds should be dealt with on roughland too. The cost is so low, that even a very slight boost in grass growth will pay for it easily.

Better fertility and weed control are two fairly easy steps in making so called waste land useful. Both are well worth trying. The increase in production on some of our poor land may be far more practical than attempting to get very high but expensive yields on good land.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

<b>AUCTIONEERS</b> <b>W. D. ATKINSON</b> Phone STOUFFVILLE 640-3813 Licensed Auctioneer and Sale Manager - <b>SALES CONDUCTED ANYWHERE</b> Specializing in the preparation and selling of purebred consignments and dispersals, farm auctions, furniture, and real estate sales. Bills prepared and posted at no extra cost. This specialized service really pays off and means money in your pocket. Phone STOUFFVILLE 640-3813	<b>OPTOMETRISTS</b> <b>E. A. GRUBIN, R.O.</b> OPTOMETRIST Picton Stouffville In Stouffville at the James McCraith Residence, 58 Main St. E., on the following Mondays and Tuesdays: May 27th and 28th June 24th and 25th <b>GARNET V. GRAY, O.D.</b> OPTOMETRIST STOUFFVILLE MEDICAL CENTRE Phone 640-3722 for appointment Hours: 10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every Tuesday.
<b>KEN &amp; CLARKE PRENTICE</b> AUCTIONEERS Licensed and authorized for the Counties of York and Ontario. Markham P.O., Ph. 294-3161 or 640-3688 Prentices have been established auctioneers since 1890.	<b>DENTAL</b> <b>NEIL C. SMITH, L.D.S., D.D.S.</b> Office over Canadian Bank of Commerce. Telephone 640-3083 Stouffville Graduate of University of Toronto.
<b>A. S. FARMER</b> Licensed Auctioneer Counties of York & Ontario Farm Stock & Furniture Sales A Specialty. Telephone: Gormley 886-5311 Address: Gormley P.O.	<b>CHIROPRACTORS</b> <b>WM. S. BAIRD, D.C.</b> DOCTOR OF CHIROPRACTIC X-RAY By Appointment 327 Main St., N., Markham, Ont. Telephone 294-0701 <b>J. S. DeLAURIER, D.C.</b> 201 Main Street West Stouffville, Ontario Tues., Thurs. — 10 a.m. — 9 p.m. Wed. & Sat. — 10 a.m. — 5 p.m. TELEPHONE 640-3562
<b>LEGAL</b> <b>PAUL W. J. MINGAY, B.A.</b> BARRISTER & SOLICITOR 61 Main Street, Markham, Ont. Phone Markham 294-1123 293-6461 <b>William G. Parsons, L.L.B.</b> BARRISTER & SOLICITOR 157 Main St. W. P.O. Box 820 Phone 640-2211 Stouffville	<b>ACCOUNTANTS</b> <b>JOHN C. WYLIE, F.I.A.</b> Licensed Public Accountant AUDITOR Office & Residence— "Wylie Acres", Musselman's Lake Road, R.R.2 Stouffville. PHONE 640-3144 <b>LEONARD R. ROSENBERG</b> B.Com. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT Bank of Nova Scotia Building, Aurora Telephone FA 7-9151
<b>BUTTON &amp; COON</b> BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, NOTARIES 53 Main St. W., Stouffville Phone 640-3530 Solicitors Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. <b>H. REG. BUTTON, Q.C.</b> 103 O'Brien Ave. — Ph. 640-1975 <b>DAVID A. COON, B.A.</b> 47 Church St. North Phone 640-2103 <b>KENNETH V. YOUNG,</b> B.A., L.L.B. Markham, Ontario Phone 294-0457	<b>SURVEYORS</b> <b>D. H. BLACK</b> Ontario Land Surveyor 310 Painted Post Dr. corner of Markham Rd., Scarborough, Ont. PHONE ATLANTIC 2-5283 Res. 282-4508
<b>KENNEDY &amp; KENNEDY</b> 67 Richmond St. W., Toronto Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries, ROSS KENNEDY, Prov. Hwy. 7, Locust Hill Markham - 294-1632 ROSS L. KENNEDY Prov. Hwy. 7, Locust Hill Markham, 294-1556	<b>UPHOLSTERING</b> • Rebuilding — restyling — wood refinishing. • Custom built furniture — draperies — broadloom. No money down — Easy terms — 90 day no finance charge. HIGHEST QUALITY AT LOWEST PRICES. FREE — • advice on home furnishings. • estimates in your home. <b>TOROMARK</b> <b>FURNITURE HOUSE</b> Markham 294-2581
<b>CATTANACH &amp; HINDSON</b> Barristers & Solicitors Stouffville by appointment anytime—phone Markham 25 MAIN STREET, MARKHAM. Phone 294-0666	<b>BEAUTY SALONS</b> The <b>POWDER PUFF</b> Beauty Salon JOY ROSS Days, Tues. thru Sat. Nights, Wed. and Fri. For appointment call 640-2472
<b>ROBERT W. McVEY</b> Barrister & Solicitor Suite 110, 221 Victoria Street, Toronto Markham — Toronto Phone 294-2371 Phone 363-0389	<b>FUNERAL DIRECTORS</b> <b>L. E. O'NEILL</b> STOUFFVILLE FUNERAL DIRECTOR AND EMBALMER Continuous Telephone Service Day or Night Phone Stouffville 640-2855
<b>INSURANCE</b> <b>THOS. BIRKETT AND SON LTD.</b> General Insurance Agency Stouffville, Ontario Insurance in reliable companies at reasonable rates. — Prompt Service — Telephone 640-2000 Evenings— Gordon R. Birkett - 640-3715 Les Clarke - 640-2144 Bob Hassard - 640-3585	<b>HERE IS... THE MAN</b> TO CALL FOR THE BEST BUY ON YOUR INSURANCE <b>LLOYD F. HARVEY</b> R.R. 1 Gormley Phone Gormley 886-5369 <b>STATE FARM</b> Insurance Companies Canadian Head Office, Toronto, Ont.



## MILK for HEALTH

Make milk your meal-mate for a healthier, happier family. Nothing tastes so good or is better for you! Call for regular delivery.

**EARLY MORNING DELIVERY GUARANTEED.**

**MARKHAM DAIRY LTD.**  
 PHONE DIRECT  
 MARKHAM — 294-2212

# SHORGAS

## GAS MERCHANDISING CENTRE

46 Levendale Rd. — Richmond Hill

### NATURAL AND PROPANE GAS

- Heating - COZY LIVE MODERN FOR LESS WITH GAS
- Cooking - GIVE YOUR KITCHEN THAT MODERN LOOK WITH A NEW AUTOMATIC GAS RANGE
- Drying - DRY YOUR CLOTHES IN THE MODERN MANNER WITH GAS
- Water Heating - MOST HOT WATER AT THE LOWEST COST

Call Collect 285-2634 or 884-4186



**LITTLE LOTTA LOVELINESS**  
 CATCH THE EYE OF ALL YOUR FRIENDS WITH REGULAR APPOINTMENTS  
 NOT JUST NOW AND THEN  
 CALL TO-DAY

**ILSE'S BEAUTY SALON**  
 294-3173 MARKHAM  
 640-2932 STOUFFVILLE



**THE OLD-TIMER SAYS**  
 THE SECRET TO SUCCESS IS: TO STRIKE WHILE THE IRON IS HOT WITHOUT GETTING YOUR FINGERS BURNED...

**FRANK'S SHELL SERVICENTRE**  
 SHELL GUARANTEED AUTO REPAIRS  
 640-2012 STOUFFVILLE

## FLOCK OWNERS WANTED

### FOR MOUNT ALBERT HATCHERY

1,000 hens can make up to \$1,800 per year over and above chicken and feed costs. Choice Cut-up Chicken Ltd. guarantees to take all of your hatching eggs, paying a premium above 65¢ per dozen on all hatches over 75%.

Each breeder hen requires 3½ square feet of floor space, and a Farm Improvement Loan is available from your local banker for building or renovating.

We supply the cockerels free and can, if necessary, supply you with ready-to-lay breeder hens at cost.

Looking after a breeder flock is light work, and provides a real money making opportunity — why not contact our Hatchery at Mount Albert, Telephone 178.

# WANTED


## FOR LIONS GIANT WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

Couches	Hoes
Beds	Forks
Stoves	Dishes
Pianos	Toys
Shovels	Appliances
	Etc.

Clean out your basement and donate the articles to the Lions Club. Nothing refused.

Pick up dates  
**Saturday, May 11, 1963**  
**Saturday, May 18, 1963**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL  
 Bun Sellers 640-1913  
 Neil Patrick 640-2235



## Reminders...

of action to take to keep insured

# ONTARIO HOSPITAL SERVICES COMMISSION

If you change jobs, follow carefully the instructions on the back of the Certificate of Payment, Form 104, which your group is required to give you.

When you reach your 19th birthday you are no longer covered by your parents' certificate. Register separately within thirty days to keep insured. Forms are available at hospitals, banks and Commission offices.

# INSURANCE

When you marry, the Family premium must be paid to cover husband, wife and eligible dependants. Tell your group, OR, if you pay direct, tell the Commission.

**ONTARIO HOSPITAL SERVICES COMMISSION**  
 2195 Yonge Street, Toronto 7, Ontario

**ALWAYS KEEP YOUR HOSPITAL INSURANCE CERTIFICATE HANDY**