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York County Forest Now Productive Timber Acreage

The very fine pine plantations of York County forest are producing thousands of poles this year, both large and small, for barns and other buildings. In Whitechurch Township, many years ago a great pine producing area, Zone Forester John Griffiths of the Department of Lands and Forests, at Maple, reports that men and horses are again going into the bush to skid out full length trees.

More than 100 years ago these same lands bore forests and huge pines were felled for the square timber and the lands cleared for farming. The exposed sandy soils didn't support grain growing for more than a couple of generations as the organic humus material, which had accumulated in the soil over thousands of years, was rapidly used up. Productivity fell, large areas of blowing sand resulted and farms were abandoned as many farmers trekked west to begin again.

The sand continued blowing in Whitechurch Township, leaving many huge pine stumps standing 6 feet in the air, supported on still-like roots. The sand, blown from the fields, often drifted across the roads like snow, as 'old timers' recall, sometimes blocking them or making travel difficult.

In 1924 York County Council commenced purchasing these blow sand areas and under an

Agreement with the Department of Lands and Forests these waste lands were reforested, sometimes with great difficulty since drifting and blowing sand pelted the young trees "like a sand blast." This program of land purchases and reforestation has continued to the present time and York County forest now comprises an area of some 4,160 acres. Recent land purchases have been made not only for reforesting waste lands but equally to preserve waste lands before bulldozers arrive.

Present pine plantations now range from 30 to 40 years of age, up to 70' in height and 12" in diameter and it is from these stands that long, straight, well-formed poles are being produced. Trees to be cut are selected by an experienced forest ranger only one-quarter of the trees being removed as a thinning at the present time. The trees are felled, limbed, skidded out by a horse (since tractors can't operate between the trees) and cut into poles of varying lengths. Trees that aren't straight enough for a pole plus the small top logs, are cut into pulpwood. The very best trees are left having been pruned of their limbs to a height of 17 feet, in past years, and these specimens will produce clear lumber and veneer material without knots, in years to come. "Thus we have come full circle in 100 years," Mr. Griffiths noted, "from the virgin forest to farms, to blow sand, to productive forest again." Let us hope that we have learned something about the wise use of this natural resource in the meantime.

GORMLEY

Sympathy is expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gamble in the passing of his mother who was buried on Thursday.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ash who recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. They entertained their families and a number of friends at a dinner in honour of the occasion.

Miss Barbara Kirstein was guest of honour at a bridal shower on Wednesday night at the home of Mrs. Ian Reid.

Mr. Jos. Patterson is in Toronto General Hospital undergoing tests and treatment.

Mr. Albert Heise was able to come home from York County Hospital, Newmarket, on Thursday and is able to be out around again after his major surgery.

At the time of writing, Mrs. Norman Johnston has been three weeks in York Central Hospital, Richmond Hill. This is her second time there in recent weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wideman of Sault Ste. Marie are holidaying with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Brooke spent several days in Ottawa.

Misses Dinah Wilcox and Miss Cheryl Cochrane of Nova Scotia spent Wednesday with Miss Janet Varley.

Miss Kristine Sider of Wellandport is with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Wideman.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon McWhirter spent several days with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Doug McWhirter and girls of Montreal. Mrs. McWhirter went on to visit Mrs. R. Wilcox at Granville Ferry, Nova Scotia.

Mrs. Walter Brauen of Clarence Centre, New York, had supper on Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Wideman. Mrs. Brauen also visited Mrs. J. R. Steckley and Mrs. Levi Steckley.

A number of people from our community assisted with Vacation Bible School at Oak Ridges Brethren in Christ Church.

Vacation Bible School is also in progress this week at Heise Hill Brethren in Christ Church each evening at 7 o'clock commencing July 12 until July 22.

Miss Charleen Milsted spent the weekend with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Jones near Utterson.

Mrs. David Wilfred of Chilliwack, B.C., is visiting her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Britnell.

Miss Margaret Lewis of Scarborough is spending two weeks with her grandparents, Major and Mrs. F. Lewis.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nikolous and Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Nikolous moved on the weekend to Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Durden are moving into the Nikolous home.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Britnell on the arrival of their grandson, Robert Stanley Victor, born to Mr. and Mrs. Victor Britnell on Friday night at the Queensway Hospital.

Mrs. Wm. Ash and Mrs. M. Ash attended the trossseau tea for Miss Joan Hare at Temperanceville on Sunday afternoon.

The Gormley Women's Institute will celebrate their 35th Anniversary Picnic, Wednesday, July 28, 2 p.m., at Whitechurch Community Park, Vandorf. All neighbours and friends are welcome; also a special invitation to all former members. Do come and renew acquaintances. Sports for the kiddies. Please bring your own lunch and dishes.

Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis and family of Scarboro spent the weekend with his parents, Major and Mrs. F. Lewis.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Heise, Miss Arvilla Forester attended the Baker reunion at Duntroon last week. A large group attended. The eldest in attendance was 88 years while the youngest was four weeks.

A very fine program was presented at the Heise Hill B.C. Church on Sunday night by a Christ Crusaders group from Stayner.

Goodwood News

Mrs. R. May

Notices have been received by all rural route mail box holders to have boxes repaired and names on floor since it is to drive along the country roads and see the name of the owner in clear print.

Children are busy this week and last with Vacation Bible School. The closing exercises will be held Friday evening at 8 p.m. in the Baptist Church. All adults are invited to come and see what our children have learned and also things made for craft.

Congratulations to Bobby and Kathy Evans who marked birthdays on July 12. Mr. and Mrs. Wes. Evans are moving this week to their new home near Port Perry.

A number of young folks helped Miss Ann Wood celebrate her sixteenth birthday on Friday evening.



A beautiful live picture was viewed by Mrs. R. May and Ben at 6:30 one morning when four full grown deer were seen looking into the bright morning sun and Mr. Dan Norton's cattle cattle standing all ears a few rods further on.

Robert, nine year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Pattenden, has undergone surgery in Uxbridge Hospital.

The Baptist Sunday School picnic is to be held at Woodland Park on July 24. The Young People's sports day is to be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Hockley this Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Baldwin were among many callers on Mr. and Mrs. Ern. Pilkey in Stouffville on Sunday. It being their twenty-fifth wedding day.

BLOOMINGTON

Mr. and Mrs. W. Yeats and children of Belleville visited with Mr. and Mrs. E. Baker and Clarion last week.

The Women's Fellowship held their July meeting in the church school rooms with a picnic supper followed by a business meeting and roll call of verse on "Foundation."

Mrs. D. Benson and Mrs. D. Burnett conducted a splendid program in which everyone present took some part, either in contests, readings, solos or duets.

Mrs. Sooley was in the hospital for a week of observation, but is home and reports are satisfactory.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Ferguson and Patricia of Scarborough were visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Ferguson.

Miss Minnie Williams of Newmarket is in the Newmarket Hospital with a broken hip. Her nieces, Mrs. I. Smith and Mrs. H. Thomas were visiting her on Sunday.

Miss Mabel Rodgers, niece of Rev. D. Benson and her friend, Miss Margaret Carruthers of Ireland are visiting with the Bensons and gave two numbers in song in church, Sunday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Benson of Willowdale were also here on Sunday.

The new church piano was dedicated in a short service by our pastor in thanksgiving and prayer on Sunday morning.

Also we note Mr. Ron Tranmer had a birthday on June 30 and Mr. Jerry Tranmer on July 13.

Congratulations to the nine successful entrance exam pupils from our school.

Miss Dianne Story has taken a position at Lean Frazier Associates in Toronto.

We welcome Mr. and Mrs. L. Provost of Scarborough to Bloomington. They have purchased the former A. Smith house recently vacated by Mr. and Mrs. F. Rowe who moved to Stouffville.

Mr. and Mrs. Noel Story and family attended the Wagg reunion in Stouffville Park on Sunday.

VILLAGE OF STOUFFVILLE

PROCLAMATION

1965 CIVIC HOLIDAY

Pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Stouffville Council it was resolved: "That Monday, August 2, 1965 be and the same is hereby fixed as the Civic Holiday for the current year, and that the Reeve be authorized to publish the usual proclamation in connection therewith."

These are, therefore, to make known that in compliance with the foregoing resolution I do hereby proclaim MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 1965 as the CIVIC HOLIDAY for the year 1965 of which all persons are hereby requested to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

W. W. Timbers, Reeve.

— GOD SAVE THE QUEEN —

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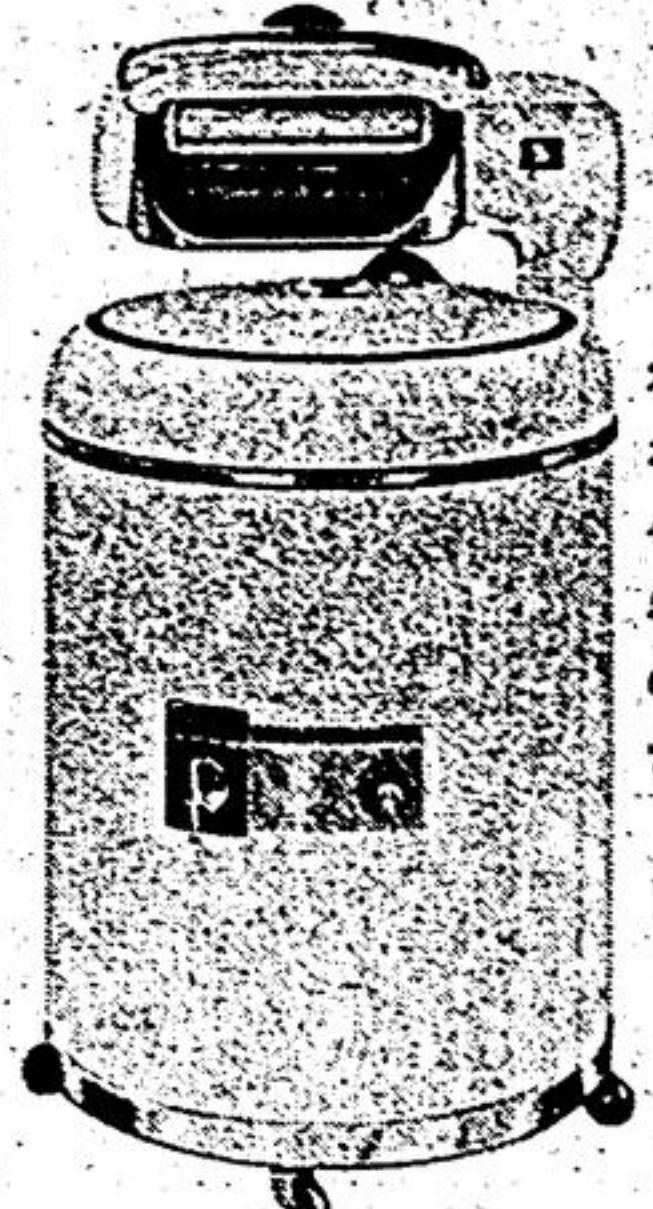
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