New Pastor, Christ Church Anglican

Rev. Frederick E. Miller, formerly of All Saints Anglican Church, Kingsway, has accepted a two-point charge at Christ Church Anglican in Stouffville and -Staff Photo. St. Philip's Anglican, Unionville.

The Green Glens Of Antrim

By SARA SHIELDS

A few years ago the minister of the Church I attended asked if I would visit an old lady who had recently arrived from Northern Ireland He said, "She's the most interesting person I've met in years, but she's homesick, now tomorrow is St. Patrick's Day, could you go then? I've told her about you, she needs you."

So, on St. Patrick's Day, I set out to visit Mrs. Kathleen O'Neill, recently -arrived in Canada to make her home with a daughter, and the welcome she gave me was heart warming indeed. In her delightful Irish brogue she said, "Och, shure an I've been waiting for you, its glad indeed I am to see you."

As the minister said, Mrs. O'Neill was a most interesting person, and she was lovely in appearance, too, even at her advanced age. Her figure was so straight and upright, and with her white hair, and rosy face, and kind eyes that looked one straight in the face, with understanding. She was good to look

i"Och Canada's the grand country indeed; but when a' body's eighty-seven its hard to leave their native land: they are a bit too old was the youngest old lady started as a labourer. I'd ever met, she told me One morning his fore-Blarney Stone.

two years, and after each visit came away looking taken to hospital, also that

forward to the next one. One day she asked me if I remembered the Glens of Antrim, when I replied I did, she said "There's a good story I can tell you that I'm sure will interest you." It was just one of the many interesting stories she told me.

Mrs. O'Neill continued, "When I was a girl, our nearest neighbours, and I should say our best neighbours, were folk named O'Callahan, The eldest son was born on St. Patrick's Day, so they named him Patrick. When he was twenty, he emigrated to America, and got a job in New York.

Shure an the lad got on well, his workmates would tell him he had the "luck o the Irish," but he made one big mistake. In the desire to get on in the world, and make money, he forgot all about the way he had been brought up. He forgot God. Money, and prestige, were now the gods he worshipped.

A few years passed, and one day he received a letter from his sister telling him his mother was ill, and desired to see him. He sent extra money, but said he couldn't possibly come home, as his business required all his attention. By this time Pat O'Callahan then to be pulling up their was head of the construcroots. When I told her she tion business where he had

have kissed the man came into his office to tell him that a man had I visited Mrs. O'Neill for been hurt on one of the machines, and had been

the firm was to blame.

O'Callahan called at the hospital to see the injured man, whom his foreman had said was an Irishman, and not long in the country, but the man refused to see O'Callahan. However, he called again, and this time a big surprise awaited him, the injured man turned on him in fury.

"Listen to me, Pat

O'Callahan, you don't recognize me, but we went to school together, back yonder in the Glen of Antrim. We were pals, and you had the making of a fine man, but now all you care about is money, and you don't care who you walk over to get it either. You have forgotten many things, O'Callahan, amongst them is your soul, and that one day YOU MUST, ACCOUNT TO GOD. Now get out of here, and don't come back."

Pat O'Callahan stumbled out of that hospital room with an awakened conscience, and a great shame in his heart. Memories beganto flood his soul. Why hadn't he recognized his old school chum? The contempt in the man's eyes, and his plain words had stung O'Callahan as nothing else had ever done.

Then he began thinking of his old Christian mother, no doubt he had hurt her too, and likely it was her and when we come back prayers for him that were 'there'll be a good job waitbeing answered now, and ing for you. I hope you'll causing him such shame, take it, and I'm thankful as he looked back on the we are pals again. Did

past few years. through the long night. He rick's Day."

Old-timers of Uxbridge who remember the Watermelon Express of the Tor-

onto and Nipissing Railway in the 1870's and possibly the 1880's all agree that the trip was great fun. It was cheap-30c return from Uxbridge to Toronto - and almost everyone returned carrying a watermelon.

END OF SUMMER

The express ran at the end of the summer when watermelons from the southern States were plentiful. In a June, 1928, issue of the Canadian National Railways 'Magazine, D. J. McMillan, a veteran then of 54 years of railroading mentions in 'Half a Century of Railroading'-"We ran an excursion during Exhibition time at Toronto, for the Toronto and Nipissing employees, their families and anybody else who could crowd on and get away with it." 'Exhibition' those days meant the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, the forerunner of the Canadian National Exhibi-

From the "crowding on" sprang much of the fun. Box cars and open flat cars fitted with planks for benches, as well as passenger coaches, accommodated the crowds. Branches of cedar and spruce stuck in the stake pockets of the flat cars kept the hot sun off the passengers.

LOTS OF FUN

Picture the double header, wood burning locomotive, and entourage pulling into Uxbridge on the day of the excursion. The Toronto and Nipissing Railway was the first narrow gauge train operated on the north American continent and ran as far as Coboconk, with a branch to Jackson's Point. Thus some passengers would have entrained before it reached Uxbridge. J. A. Lord of Uxbridge remembers it this way: "Well, there was a real jolly

would see his old school pal was justly treated, and a bit over. Then he would go home to Ireland to see his mother. As morning dawned, he had several plans to use some of his wealth, that would help others:

The injured man recovand O'Callahan heard through his forethat the man was going home for a holiday They met again on the wharf, as they awaited ship. This time the man held out his hand, in friendship, saying, "An where would you be bound for Pat?"

The reply was, "Shure, the same place as yourself, the Green Glens of Antrim, you know that all being Then he formed a plan, well, we should be landing as he sat thinking all on the old sod on St. Pat-



By BETTY ROSS

crowd went, anticipating lots of fun. The open cars were preferred to the coach or box cars. Lots of young folks keeping time to their songs with the bumpti-bump - clickiti-click of the railway joints, worn to receive the bumps of the wheels."

You can see, if you look closely, the bearded men, some in their best clothing, and those who had no best; the ruddy weathered faces of the farmers distinguished them from the paler townspeople. The Toronto Industrial Exhibition drew both townsman and farmer. There could have been young bloods among the crowd who planned to miss the return train and, instead, take in the show-anything from melodrama to burlesque -at the Royal Lyceum Theatre on King Street. Mothers and daughters

in their high necked, long sleeved, ankle length gowns were off for a day's shopping, or visiting, or to view the Exhibition. Perhaps mama was found a seat on the passenger coach so that daughter could enjoy more freely the fun on the open flat car. How many romances Toronto on the next Waterbegan - and ended - on the Watermelon Express?

PRETTY GIRLS

Most of the middle aged and older men and women who boarded the Watermelon Express must have carried in their faces and bearing the effects of the terrible toil and hardships of pioneer life. In the 1870's it was only 40 to 45 years since the very first settlers had built their log cabins and hewed their farms north of Uxbridge. Life was undoubtedly becoming easier. One would expect the young girls to be handsome and healthy. Surprisingly - considering the harshness and poverty of their lives-so had been their mothers. James Taylor in a travel book, 'Narrative of a Journey', wrote in 1846, "The female beauty of some of the Canadians cannot be surpassed; their. features are finely formed and the expressions on their countenances quite

fascinating" To the children, at any rate, the speed of the train would have been the most exciting sensation imaginable. The Ontario scenery, the bush, the farms, the swamps, the hamlets, must have positively flown past at fifteen miles an hour, and if a boy could thrust his hand into his pocket and feel a coin or two, what more could he ask? What more glorious could the future hold for him

than to be a railwayman? It is believed that the Toronto and Nipissing Railway had running rights over Grand Trunk lines from Scarborough Junction, its proper terminal, to the then "Union Station" at the foot of York Street and the Esplanade. From that point the Watermelon excursionist likely confronted on foot the sights, smells, and heady charms of the city. Or he may have boarded a Toronto Street Railway horse-car whose lawful speed was not to exceed six miles an hour!

As for the home trip, J. A. Lord says, "On their return they were a tired crowd, loaded with melons, but they had a grand time and nearly always dated their next visit to

KIND COMPETENT

Nursing Care for the Chronic Convalescent and Aged



TENDER LOVING CARE AND UNDERSTANDING IN A COUNTRY HOME ATMOSPHERE

Our elderly guests receive personalized professional care in a spacious and congeniai country home.

The Manor is open for your inspection at any

GREEN GABLES MANOR

Inc., Ont.

Licensed by Ont. Dept. of Health Stouffville 640-3061 Approved by Associated Nursing Homes



Markham Student Wins Separate School Speaking Contest

Twelve year old Michael Barrack, a Grade 7 student at St. Patrick's, Markham and 13 year old " Patricia McCann of St. John's, Newmarket, were the first prize winners in the Catholic Women's League -Staff Photo: York County Oratorical Contest held at St. Mark's, Stouffville, March 5.

melon Excursion." And our old railroader completes the picture for us when he says, "That practically every person, young or old, boarded the train to go home with a watermelon under their arm. Needless to say, all of the melons did not reach their destination."

Attends Christening At Agincourt

By ADA STECKLEY

Thursday, March 16,- 1967

RINGWOOD - Mrs. Frank Atkinson attended the christening ceremony of her granddaughter, Margaret Ellen Cockwell at Agincourt, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Pullen and family of Don Mills, former residents here, had Friday night dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fockler and family.

There will be a Good Friday service in Stouff- . ville Christian Church at"." 10:45 a.m. Rev. Wm. Tyler" of Toronto, one time minister at this church, will

Miss Helen Anderson of Orillia had Sunday dinner with her niece Mrs. Stewart Vague and family.

be the sepawer.

Mr. Clarence Fockler spent a few days in Winnipeg last week.



What do









WAGG'S Jewellery & China 24 Main W. - Stouffville

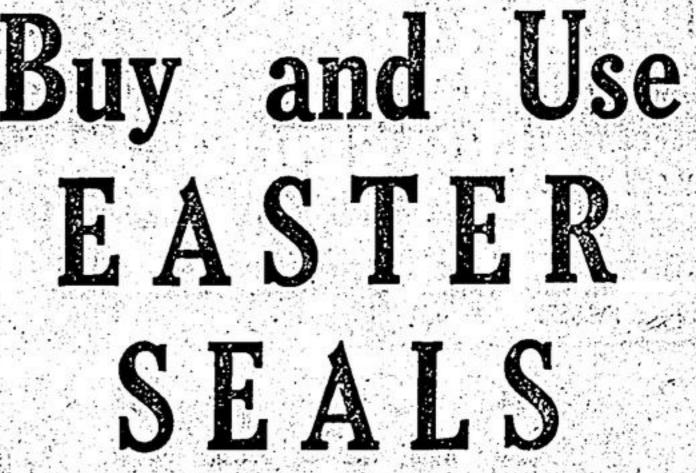
Stouffville .

Crippled Child? For her learning to walk is hard, hard work. Sometimes she cries. Usually you can josh her along. But words don't always help. So you love her until she gets her

fight back. Then she's ready to try again.

Love is one of three things that help a crippled child walk. The other two are skill and money. We've found people with the love and skill to give.

We're looking to you for the money. Not a lot, just enough to put one child one day closer to walking.



"A Symbol of Hope for Crippled Children" Money received through the sale of Easter Seals by the Llons Club of Stouffville provide the necessary treatment, equipment and recreation for all

MAIL YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY! Put your donation in the Pink Envelope and Mail today to :-

> EASTER SEAL FUND, Mr. George Williams, Manager, Bank of Nova Scotia, Box 700,

STOUFFVILLE, ONT.

crippled children in Stouffville and area.

MESSAGE SPONSORED BY THE FOLLOWING FIRMS:

WELDON'S Men's Wear-Footwear

CO-OP 39 Main W. - Stouffville 47 Edward St.-Stouffville

STOUFFYILLE STOUFFVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES 130 Main W. - Stouffville

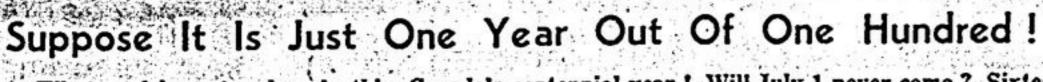
AIKEN'S O'NEILL'S PHARMACY 45 Main W. - 3 Main E.

35 Main W. - Stouffville

Stouffville District Credit Union Ltd. 62 Main W. - Stouffville

HENDRICKS Hardware & Electric 29 Main W. - Stouffville

这种中国的图象——由于Your



What a girl must endure in this, Canada's centennial year! Will July 1 never come? Sixteen year old Donna Wright, Baker Avenue, Stouffville may complain a little but she really doesn't mind. In fact, she thinks friend Ed Wideman, 18, is really quite handsome with or without a beard. Ed says he'll endure the agony of it all until judging day, then off it comes.