



Derailed Canadian National Campers Special Blocks Line At Goodwood

C.N.R. engine No. 4154 was partially derailed but remained upright after it was struck by a thirteen ton gravel truck at a level crossing on County Road 1A at Goodwood. None of the 370 children and counsellors, en route to Camp White Pine in Haliburton, was injured. —Staff Photo.

Truck driver Dennis Fournier of Island Lake had a miraculous escape from death. His vehicle rammed the locomotive, driving it and six cars off the track. Fournier was treated at the scene by two nurses on the train and taken to Scarboro General Hospital by ambulance. He was released later the same day. —Staff Photo.

Claremont Elm Tree Bears Family Plaque

By ANNE LONEY
CLAREMONT — On the west side of the Brock Road, at the lane going into Claremont Villa Nursing Home and where the road bends east towards the C.P.R. Railroad, is a huge elm tree bearing a plaque, inscribed "Wickson's Historic Tree." It is believed that this tree was planted by the Wickson family, although the spelling of the name differs, due probably to an error when the plaque was made.

Joseph and Joshua Wickson were the first pioneer settlers of the vicinity. They came to Canada from New York the latter part of the 18th century and were the descendants of an English forerunner who came a century before in 1684 to the State of Massachusetts, and later moved to New York. They settled on the east and west sides of the Brock Road, north of the 9th concession. Joseph is said to have cleared about 400 acres on the west side between the 9th concession and the townline of Uxbridge. He built his house just north of where the road bends to the east, half way between the Four Corners of the village and the present railway station.

Joshua Wickson, his brother, took up land on the east side of the Brock Road, his property extending from the C.P.R. on the north to the 9th concession on the south and half a mile east. It is believed that his daughter, Ruth (Mrs. Sylvanus Sharrard) was the first white child in the northern part of Pickering Township. Mrs. Sharrard is the great, great grandmother of Viola and Georgina Forsyth, who make their home in Claremont and it is to Georgina we are indebted for these historical notes. The old farm is now occupied by Mrs. Edgar Ward.

Ruth Wickson was born on January 10, 1804 and died February 23, 1900, aged 96 years, 1 month and 13 days. She was familiarly known as "Grandma Sharrard" and was one of the original members of the Claremont Baptist Church. She taught in the Sunday School from the early days until she was well over fourscore. Her husband, Sylvanus, was of considerable prominence in the municipal and religious life of the community during the first half of the 19th century. He was a public spirited man, and widely known as an effective preacher of the gospel. One could truly say the Wicksons were the first family of Claremont.

During July and August the Public Library will be open Tuesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. It will not be open on Saturdays. The Librarian, Mrs. Harry Porter, says that several newly published books have been received.

Howard Johnston, membership secretary of Ontario Riding, is attending the N.D.P. Convention in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Hepburn and family from Toronto, who recently moved into the Gary Tomkins home left Saturday for a holiday in Algonquin Park. Mr. and Mrs. David MacDonald and Vicki and Ross visited in Fenelon Falls, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elson Milles and family of Milliken, were Friday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Britton.

Mr. and Mrs. Hans de Heus of Kingston spent the holiday weekend with Mrs. de Heus' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Michell.

Due to the heavy rain on Sunday, the Decoration Day Service of Claremont Union Cemetery was held in the Baptist Church at 2:30 p.m. The Rev. Dr. H. S. Hillyer gave the prayer. Mrs. Will Evans played the organ.

Twenty-two pictures were taken. Long after both events had concluded, the film was developed. To the Editor's dismay, not a single photo was usable. This accounted for the absence of picture coverage in The Tribune issue of June 29.

We can only hope that the good people of Claremont will understand our predicament and not hold it against us for the next 100 years.

Attend Wedding

By ELSIE DUNKELD
ATHA — Mr. and Mrs. Grenville Draper, Lorraine and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Ecklund attended the Harrison-Cromier wedding in St. John's Church, Burlington.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dunkeld attended the couples bowling banquet held at the Legion Hall, Claremont.

One Of Those Days

CLAREMONT — Saturday, June 24, was one of those days.

The Tribune, shorthanded due to staff vacations, acquired the services of a reporter-photographer to cover the centennial parade and church service.

Twenty-two pictures were taken. Long after both events had concluded, the film was developed. To the Editor's dismay, not a single photo was usable. This accounted for the absence of picture coverage in The Tribune issue of June 29.

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Henry Chaplin, won the second race at Blue Bonnet Race Track in Montreal, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Davis with their grandchildren, Kathy and Sean Mackenzie, spent the weekend at their cottage on Kinnis Lake.

On Saturday at Sunderland Race Track two horses "Betty Frost" and "Mr. Harvey" won a second and a third respectively. They are owned by Hilliard and Robert Stiner of Claremont.

Mr. Keith Etcher motored from Windsor to take back Mrs. Etcher who has been here taking care of their daughter's family during Mrs. Earle Pilkey's illness.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Davis and son, Scott of Big Spring, Texas, are guests of Mrs. Davis' cousin, Mrs. T. A. Newman and Mr. Newman.

Visitors at the home of Mrs. Eva Towner for Decoration Day were: Mrs. Ida Larkin, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kennedy, Mrs. Edna Fleming, Mrs. Katie Redman, Mrs. Margaret Dale and Mrs. Myrtle Bechman of Toronto and Mrs. Ed Redshaw and Mr. and Mrs. William Towner and family of Claremont.

Comments Overheard As Students Tour Museum

By ELSA STORRY
ROUGHAM — In June, after a term of toil in class, school children enjoy a release. Many of them select a visit to the Pickering Township Museum at Brougham for their annual outing.

Nearly 2,000 school children visited the museum in supervised classes during June. Most of them were from "Pickering" School Area 2 in the township, yet there were almost as many from outside—from Peterborough, Scarborough, Richmond Hill, Brooklin and Whitby.

It is interesting to note that there were no classes from "Pickering" Township School Area 1, the north part of the township, where the museum is located.

People are always associated with things in a child's mind, and almost all of the school children, especially the first grades, wanted to know, "Who LIVES here?"

They wonder who sleeps in the short, rope bed with his bumpy straw mattress in the log cabin; who wears the huge buffalo skin coat, who eats the food in the heavy pots by the fireplace.

"This log house was built long before your grandmothers were born, or even some of your great-grandmothers," I told one Grade 1 class, "1830 is a long, long time ago."

I told them about how people lived then. Suddenly, one little boy's hand shot up.

"The man left his gun here," he said, pointing to the old musket over the door.

To some, history is alive; to others, it's a bore. Like the little girl who made a quick circle around the inside of the museum and out the door again in a flash.

"That was pretty fast," said the curator, "Did you look at some of the exhibits?"

The girl shrugged.

"I guess you didn't find it very interesting," ventured the curator.

"That's just about it," she replied.

MOST ARE INTRIGUED
HER."

In the log house the ropes that separate the rooms from the public are down when the children come — always supervised by their teachers — so the children can examine the furnishings quite closely. One child saw the rope in a corner and asked if people hanged themselves with that in the good old days.

One child was asked to demonstrate the yoke which is carved to fit around the human neck to bear buckets of water long years ago.

"No," he said, "You're not going to beat me with that."

The function of the yoke was explained, and the boy said he thought that was something which was used to beat people up, with.

WILD GUESSES
Sometimes the children are asked to name some of the things they see. There are many wild guesses — few of them ever heard of an apple rack, a settle, mangle or flail, or many of the things their ancestors once used. When the children are asked what kind of fur the old buffalo coat is made of, most of the replies are "mink."

Often Curator Mrs. Ruth Hay receives letters from some of her young visitors. They tell her what they liked best in the museum, and often as not it is the Indian relics that have been dug in Pickering Township, with many inquiries about fossils "for we are studying them in school," or simply the old cast iron toys, or the ancient doll or two that children played with in the past. They nearly all agree that they would rather live now than then.

If all the boys and girls who said they were coming to the museum on History in Action days, Sept. 16 and 17, when the old arts and crafts are demonstrated; when they can go for rides in wagons pulled by horses; when real Indians are going to dance, there won't be room for any adults at all.



The Band Played On Since 1903

The Claremont Citizens' Band attended Stouffville's centennial celebrations July 1, taking part in both the parade and later in the program in the park. One of its members is Mr. George Pegg of Markham who joined the group in 1920. The leader is Will Coates. —Staff Photo.

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