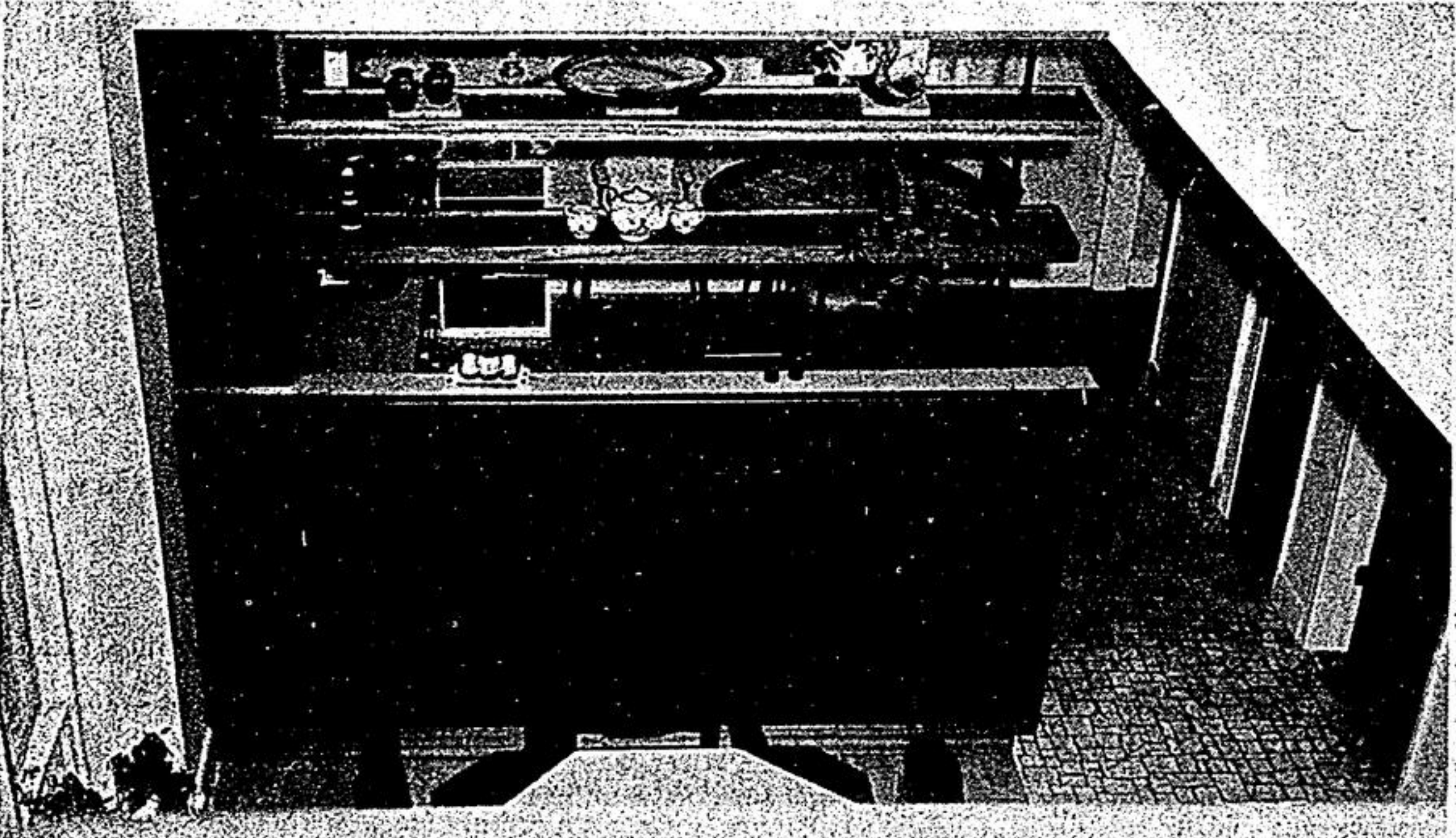


# Old Schoolhouse Becomes Comfortable New Home



This is the old Mongolia school, built in 1882. It is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Fincham and son, John. —Staff Photo



From an upstairs balcony, one looks down into the dining room and adjoining kitchen. The carpentry work was completed by Gilbert Patterson of Markham. —Staff Photo

## The First To Be Sold

**MONGOLIA** — When Ronald Fincham of Markham, submitted the successful tender for the 84 year old Mongolia schoolhouse, there were many who felt that the initial purchase price of the property, far exceeded its practical value.

But Ron and his pretty wife, Joanne, already had completed sketch plans for the interior and today, that same little red brick school has been transformed into a lovely new home.

And lovely it is. Once inside the door, one is captured by the spacious beauty of the residence with its seven large rooms, high ceilings and central staircase. The main carpentry work was done by Gilbert Patterson of Markham. Dean Percy and Grant Thompson, also of Markham did the wiring and plumbing.

In spite of the size of the living quarters, the home retains an atmosphere of warmth not unlike an old-fashioned farm house. For Ron and Joanne, much of that warmth is attributed to the addition of a third member in the family, 16 month old John.

**THE FIRST SOLD**  
The school at Mongolia was the first to be sold by the Markham Township Area 2 Board. Since then, several others have been disposed of by auction and the price has more than doubled. Ron figures that his complete investment will about equal that paid by other purchasers for buildings and sites alone.

His home is heated by the original school furnace at a cost of about \$1.00 per day. He also uses the original pressure system. There is a two-piece bath, one upstairs and one down. The building has a full basement.

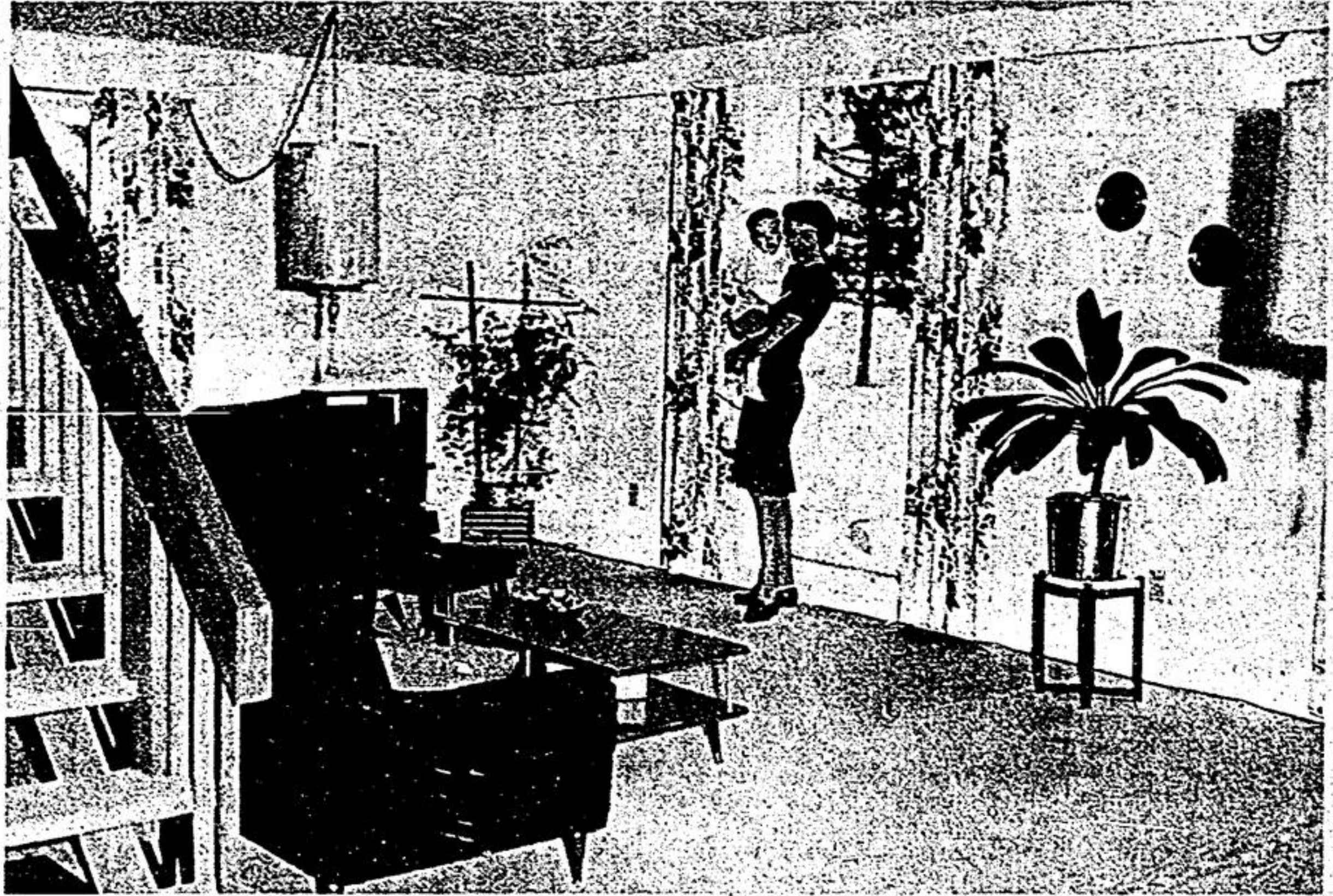
The exterior is three bricks thick. Roughing-in materials were acquired from the old Sellers barn located on the present site of Varley Village. The original front doors have been removed and replaced by large vertical windows that extend almost to the ground. The view to the east extends across the Willows Golf and Country Club that Ron calls 'his 150 acre lawn.'

Ron and Joanne plan to stucco the outside and put shutters on the windows. The old roof bell and nameplate has been retained and will be built into a cairn. The bell weighs an estimated 200 pounds. "I should know," Ron admitted, "I dropped it on my toe." The owners also retained about 40 desks, globes, maps and text books, most of which have been turned over to the Salvation Army. One of the original light fixtures is to be relocated in the dining room.

**RETURNS TO SCHOOL**  
The interior of a one-room school is not unfamiliar to Joanne. She once taught an 8-grade class at Midland and later at Richmond Hill. Although a native of Toronto, she is 'sold' on country life and wouldn't exchange it for the world. In many ways, she assisted with the work, choosing the color scheme, painting the walls and even driving a few nails. "Once I showed her which end to hit," she did fine," Ron joked.

"Everything came out just about the way we wanted it," she said, "It was fun to see it go together." Both admit that they're far from finished yet, but it's apparent they're more than pleased with the results to date. "Who would be? For most folks, it would be a dream come true. It is for them."

**Hobby** — Hard work you wouldn't do for a living.



Although the exterior is very little changed, the interior is beautifully restyled. Mrs. Fincham and son, John, are shown here in a section of their spacious living room. —Staff Photo



Another view of the living room is pictured here. The two front doors have been made over into large vertical windows. The view to the east overlooks the Willows Golf Course. —Staff Photo

## Council To Make Choice

# Centennial Medal Stirs Public Interest

**STOUFFVILLE** — Within the next few weeks, Stouffville Council will be called on to select one lady or gentleman in town who, in the members' opinion, is the most worthy recipient of the Centennial Medal Award.

The medal, according to an accompanying letter received by Clerk Ralph Corner, is to go to a person who, over the years, has contributed unselfishly to the welfare of the community where he or she resides.

The task of choosing such an individual, is a difficult one, since several residents here could qualify. To assist the Council, The Tribune conducted a telephone poll and tabulated the replies. Readers should feel free to submit their selections by mail. Several opinions follow:

Mrs. Harold Wood, Rupert Avenue: My choice is Arthur Latcham. Who else has done more for Stouffville?

Mrs. George Wilson, Rose Avenue: I would select Lorne Boadway. In addition to leadership provided during centennial year, he has been active in the church, the Lions Club and the Minor Hockey Association. He is also an excellent teacher and Principal. Although he has four children of his own, he still finds time to look after other kids in town.

Mrs. John Wylie, Rupert Avenue: Two names come to mind—Lorne Boadway and William Duxbury. Mr. Boadway did a wonderful job as head of the centennial committee and Mr. Duxbury has a great influence on the young people at the high school.

Mrs. Leslie Wilson, Lloyd Avenue: No one has done more for Stouffville than Arthur Latch-

am. And the spirit with which his donations were given, makes him even more worthy of this award.

George Williams, Rupert Avenue: Arthur Latcham is the first name to come to mind. He has contributed much to Stouffville.

Mrs. Davie White, Tindale Road: I've heard so much about Lorne Boadway and what he's done, especially during centennial year.

Mrs. Wesley Schell, Main Street: West: It's difficult to make a quick choice, but I believe that Lorne Boadway did a wonderful job for Stouffville last year. For service that extends over a period of years, I favor either Arthur Latcham or Rev. Douglas Davis.

Mrs. Doug Woolven, Albert Street: Who else has done more for our town than Arthur Latcham?

Mrs. Val Babin, Main Street East: While I have not been a resident of Stouffville for a great length of time, I have found Mrs. Stan Burkholder a person always willing to help out anyone in need. She has done a great deal of good work in town.

Mrs. Percy Baston, Hawthorne Avenue: I feel that Arthur Latcham has done a tremendous amount of good, not only for Stouffville but in communities outside of town.

Mrs. Arnold Boyd, Fairview Avenue: My choice is Arthur Latcham. He has contributed to the town in many ways.

Mrs. Jim Brazier, Hawthorne Avenue: Mr. Lorne Boadway is my choice. He has given unceasingly of his time.

Rev. Alan Borland, Church Street: I'm not certain of the requirements to qualify for such

an award but certainly Lorne Boadway did a lot for the town during centennial year.

Mrs. R. E. Ellis, Loretta Crescent North: My choice is our reeve, Ken Lauchway. I feel he is doing an excellent job as head of town council.

Mr. W. G. Flowers, Albert Street: My selection would be Lorne Boadway. I feel he accomplished much for Stouffville during centennial year.

Mrs. D. S. Gibson, O'Brien Avenue: My choice is Rev. Gordon Gooderham. He has done a great deal for folks here, especially the young people of our town. He is active in the Scouts and the minor hockey. His home is always open to anyone.

Mrs. Belfry Hamilton, Harold Street: Arthur Latcham has done so much here for the good of others. I feel he deserves any recognition we can provide.

Bob Hassard, Lloyd Avenue: All you have to do is look around town and see what Arthur Latcham has done for Stouffville.

Mrs. Norman Anderson, Winona Drive: Over the years, Arthur Latcham has done much for residents here, especially the children.

Mrs. William Allen, Tindale Road: During centennial year, Lorne Boadway did a great deal for Stouffville.

Mrs. Albert Batt, Main Street West: For what he has done for Stouffville, my choice is Arthur Latcham.

Mrs. Herb Yakeley, Harold Street: If the selection is based on 1967, then Lorne Boadway is my choice. Over a period of years, however, Arthur Latcham has done much for the town.

Mrs. Murray Redshaw, Schell Street: After giving the question much thought, I feel no one deserves the honor more than Arthur Latcham.

Mrs. Robert Sanderson, Victoria Street: As a family, we have discussed the question at some length. Names on which we all agreed were Ross Davis and Dr. Nell Smith. Over the years, both have contributed much to the good of Stouffville even though their work has often been behind the scenes.

## First Meeting

The Stouffville Horticultural Society will hold its first meeting of 1968 on Monday, Jan. 15 in St. James Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Albert Drudge will show pictures of a portion of his extended trip to Asia, Africa, Europe and the British Isles. The series will continue during the winter months. Special music will be provided by Mrs. Alice Hamm on cornet, accompanied by Mr. Clarion Baker. The meeting time is eight o'clock.

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