# Belfast — scene of senseless destruction

By C. H. Nolan I stood on Governor Road today in the Falls area of Belfast as armed British soldiers walked up and down the street and city workmen, aided by residents tore apart the barricades blocking the many narrow little streets off the main road.

These were real barricades of old overturned cars and trucks, paving stones, and lumber,

This was the hardest hit area of Belfast and the destruction in a two-tothree block area is unbelievable. There were at least three six-storey buildings completely destroyed. What the fires didn't finish, demolition crews are busy on. Four Catholic-owned pubs farther along were each systematically destroyed as well as a number of cot-

Strangely enough a small Protestant 'Church standing in this strictly Catholic area was untouched.

Most bystanders seem to agree that the fanatics who came out bent on destruction have nothing to do with the church. Nine people have been killed here in the last couple of weeks, one a small boy with his school bag on his back.

There are no police in this area which covers ten to twenty square blocks. The troops are the only ones acceptable to the people at present. Many of the barricades

were erected, not in protest but for protection against extremists on both sides.

On this street last night there were a few scuffles with the soldiers when the British Defence Secretary toured this damaged

The troops today were pushing into place some of their own barbed-wire barricades which they can control. Some points are sandbagged and some machine-gun posts are in evidence as there has been



In her 100th. year

Mrs. Agnes West, a resident at Brierbush Hospital, Stouffville celebrated her 99th birthday, Aug. 17. Born in England, she resided for a time at Hagerman's Corners, Markham Twp. She has 3 daughters, Winnie, Toronto, Olive, Vancouver and Doris, Brockville. Mrs. West enjoys excellent health.

-Jas. Thomas

considerable sniping from

The people in this troubled area, which I was surprised to find was not that far from the City Centre, are very poor. The lines are drawn more on economic and social lines than on actual religion.

The Catholic people tell you they have no vote, public housing only goes to them if there are no Protestants wanting it and there are no Catholics on the governing body. 52% of all children attending school in Belfast

are Catholic. This was an interesting experience but sad in many ways. These, people are frightened, some won't talk to you. They have so little by Canadian standards and some of what little they do have is being destroyed for senseless reasons.

## Don't put out my fire

MARKHAM TWP. -Stouffville firemen were called from their noon-day meal Monday by the Markham Twp. Police Department. When they arrived at the scene, on 18th Avenue, west of Highway 48, they were met by a man who wasn't too appreciative of their arrival.

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