

From Tribune files

of 35 years ago

# Robbery attempt foiled at Claremont

What was Froot Page news in and around Stouffville, 35 years ago? A check of The Tribune during the month of January, 1944 revealed the following stories.

An attempted armed robbery at Jack Brignall's barbershop and pool room in Claremont was thwarted when the proprietor

threw a milk bottle at one of the intruders, then ran across the street and aroused grocery store operator, C.A. Overland. Mr. Overland tipped off the village constable Jack Norton who was on the scene in seconds.

rear window had been smashed by a bullet. Several Claremont residents identified it as the same vehicle used in the attempted hold-up at the Brignall premises. A number of merchants are wanting to obtain the services of a night watchman. The Tribune reported. Constable Norton was approached

about taking on the position at a suggested \$2.50 a night, but turned it down.

Frank Burkholder was elected reeve of Markham Village, defeating O.B. Hisey, 290 votes to 161. Councillors elected were - W.J. Payne, E.A. Roffey, C.W. Reesor and J.S. Torrance.

Ice-cutting was started at Ratcliff Pond, Baker Hill, with shipments going to Maple Leaf Dairy in Stouffville. Carl Rose was in charge and reported a depth of twelve inches. Later, he moved his machine to Musselman's Lake "where the supply is unlimited".

The sale was reported of a 100 acre farm at Bethesda, owned by Ross Chapman, to Mr. Gibbs of Jefferson, for \$5,000. The property had 55 acres of workable land with hydro and water in the barn.

Owing to mild weather and soft ice, the Lions Carnival that had been scheduled for the Stouffville Arena, was cancelled.

Nearly a ton of butter was stolen from the Stouffville Creamery, later resulting in three arrests by police in Toronto. Value of the product was placed at \$700. As a result of the theft, a meeting of the businessmen was requested to discuss the advisability of better night protection for merchants.

Del Jennings of the Stouffville Fire Brigade presented a petition imploring members to consider a new site "and thereby finally remove any possible chance of a catastrophe from fire that the brigade says exists in the 'Ratcliff hall'". F.L. Butten, K.C., addressed the council on behalf of the Lions Club and as a private citizen. A vote was later taken, moved by Walter Brillinger and A.V. Nolan, instructing the solicitor to close an offer received for the sale of the Anderson lot to the town on Main Street.

## Late Alfred Clinton Forrest Editor of Observer

Alfred Clinton Forrest, 62, the editor of The United Church Observer, died at his home in Toronto during the early morning hours of December 27th.

The controversial editor, well known for his support of the Palestinian cause in the Middle East conflict, had been equally outspoken on issues within Canada and the United Church. He criticized his own church for supporting a more liberal abortion policy, promoted Canadian recognition of Communist China, and argued against apartheid policies in southern Africa.

His stands provoked critics to call him everything from "that pink editor" to a crypto-Fascist John Birchler. Yet a remarkable number of people, across Canada and around the world, considered him a close friend. "He never grew too big for his britches,"

said one minister who had been befriended as a student by Dr. Forrest. "He always had time for the little guy."

A. C. Forrest was probably one of the best known officials of the United Church. As editor, he travelled regularly, visiting all of the church's 92 presbyteries. "My only boss is the reader," he often said, and he had a unique ability to perceive the needs and interests of those readers.

Appointed editor of The Observer in 1955, the circulation of the United Church's national publication rose from 155,000 to its present 312,000.

He was also widely known as a regular panelist on the TV program "What is Truth?", through a weekly column "A Cleric Comments", published in several newspapers, and as author of two books: "Not Tomorrow, NOW", on Africa, published in 1960, and "The Unholy Land", on the conflict in the Middle East, published in Canada by McClelland and Stewart in 1971.

He travelled extensively - throughout Africa and the Middle East, India and South-East Asia, the Far Eastern countries, Europe, Russia, and the Caribbean.

During World War II, he was a chaplain in the RCAF. As a student, he served in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and at the Fred Victor Mission in downtown Toronto. He was the ordained minister at Creighton Mines, Ontario, Mount Hamilton, and Port Credit, Ontario, before accepting the appointment as editor of The Observer.

He was born in 1916, and grew up in Maple, Ontario. He graduated in arts from Victoria University, Toronto, in 1937, and from Emmanuel College, Toronto, in theology in 1940. In 1961, Huntington University in Sudbury granted him an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.

Dr. Forrest is survived by his wife, the former Esther Cliphams, four daughters, and two grandchildren.

## Approve 'legal aid'

STOUFFVILLE - A Private Members' Bill, introduced by York North M.P.P., Bill Hodgson on behalf of Whitchurch Stouffville Council, has been approved by the Provincial Legislature.

The Bill does not automatically give a member of council or an employee the right to say what he or she likes, Mayor Eldred King told The Tribune. "The individual's not off the hook nor should he be," he said. The decision on whether to evoke the legislation rests with council, he explained.

The main purpose, the mayor pointed out, is to protect someone from what he described as "an innocent error".

Court records revealed previous convictions for burglary, theft, obstructing justice and escaping custody.

## Youth jailed

BROUGHAM - A 19 year old Brougham youth was sentenced to nine months in provincial reformatory for three offenses.

Douglas James Barnes was given six months for breaking into a service station where he had once been employed;

two months for breach of probation and one month for failing to appear on a charge of attempted rape.

Lehman scored twice to lead a four goal second period outburst. In the first period the game was a see-saw battle with Ajax holding a 3-2 lead with Bill Housser and John Pollard scoring for Stouffville. Doug Sanders closed out the scoring in the third period.

## Juveniles win two

STOUFFVILLE - The Stouffville S.R. Juveniles won two exhibition games during the past week, 3-1 over Port Perry and 7-3 against Ajax.

Perry, Kelly Burrows, John Pollard and Rob Carnie scored the Stouffville goals. Goaltender Richard Bartley picked up an assist on Pollard's marker. From the second period onwards Stouffville completely dominated the game.

Against Ajax, Tom Lehman scored twice to lead a four goal second period outburst. In the first period the game was a see-saw battle with Ajax holding a 3-2 lead with Bill Housser and John Pollard scoring for Stouffville. Doug Sanders closed out the scoring in the third period.

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