

From Tribune files

of twenty years ago

# Faithful switchboard operator retires

What was the "big news" in and around Stouffville, twenty years ago. To find out, we turned to The Tribune file dated January, 1959. Here's what we found.

Mildred Barkley announced her retirement from the Stouffville switchboard after a period of faithful service spanning thirty years. When she started (July, 1927), the office was located above Ratcliff's Store at the corner of Main and Market Streets. Her salary was 15 cents an hour. Her most memorable call was the tragic fire at the Arthur Dowswell farm, conc. 2, Uxbridge Twp. Mildred telephoned every resident in the area of the blaze and all responded to lead assistance. The first baby born at

Brierbush Hospital that year was a 6 pound 9 1/2 ounce boy to Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Smith, RR 1, Gormley.

Snowmobiles were still fairly new, twenty years ago, but not to Murray Daniels, Park Drive North, Stouffville. Murray built his own, equipping a 1946 Chrysler with skis and tracks. The total cost was \$250. He used it during ice fishing trips at Lake Simcoe. Even before that, Dr. H.B. Freed had a similar conveyance, enabling him to reach patients in areas where roads were blocked by snow.

Academic leaders by grade were: Grade 9A - Betty Nesbitt and Larry Spang; 9B - Wayne Hamilton and Betty Busato; 9C - Lloyd Freeman; 10A - Beverly Irwin and Louise Dyck; 10B - Daphne Chewins and Marilyn Fosdick; Grade 11 - Grace Dennie and Norma Steckley; Grade 12 - Mary Harwood and Betty Sproxtton; Special Commercial - Joan Little and Lois Martin; Grade 13 - Lorne Avery and Caroline Ogilvy. Wayne Hamilton and Mary Harwood had the highest over-all averages at 88 per cent each.

A.G. Thompson was returned as chairman of the Stouffville High School Board. Albert King was named vice chairman. The enrollment as of Sept. '58 was 272 but this was expected to reach 300 by the fall of '59.

The safe at the Dominion Store in Stouffville was blown in a daring robbery that netted thieves \$1,000. The blast hurled the safe door nearly 20 feet and was heard by nearby residents. Druggist John Houston notified the night telephone switchboard operator and she called police.

The annual report for the Stouffville United Church showed 53 baptisms; 16 marriages and 25 funerals. Membership was reported at 420. Sunday School Superintendent Stewart Superlier reported a steady increase in membership with 306 in total and 190 average. The church offering totalled \$12,546.71 and \$3,638.93 for missionary and maintenance.

Bud Lehman, playing on a line with Harold Hodgson and Lawrence Gayman, set a goal-scoring record in a game against Orangeville, counting three within a space of 27 seconds. The Clippers defeated the visitors 26-3.

Stouffville police constable Hugh VanKoughnet and a companion, Mervin Wickens, were badly burned when gasoline exploded in their fish hut on Lake Simcoe. Their clothing ablaze, both men were forced to roll in the snow to extinguish the fire.

Eddie Hankinson of Conc. 9, Markham was named "Timmy" by the Ontario Crippled Children's Society. Two persons were injured in a two-car, head-on crash near Melville on Kennedy Road, north of Unionville. Drivers of the vehicles were Wm. Couch of Almira and Ivy Nobbs of RR 2, Markham. Margaret Risbrough and Margaret Couch were admitted to hospital.

## Officers - 1979

By EVELYN MILSTED GORMLEY - The Heise Hill Church congregation held its annual meeting recently, electing the following officers. Wayne Wright, Sunday School Superintendent; Ted Bennett, Asst. Sunday School Superintendent; Lloyd Hogg, Chairman of the Christian Education Committee; Harold Wideman and Ron Empringham, members of the Church Board. The congregation has established a budget of \$23,000 for its co-operative ministry that includes - missions, education, ministerial training and summer camps. This is in addition to the regular church budget.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sider of Wainfleet spent several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Brillinger. Jean and Velma Brillinger spent ten days in Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Wallace and Tracey of Owen Sound were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hawkins. Mr. and Mrs. Murray Allin and family of Atwood spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bolender and family. The Niagara Christian College Ensemble will present a program of sacred music at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, at the Oak Ridges Brethren in Christ Church.

hold a pot-luck supper, Saturday at 5:30 p.m., followed by winter fun activities. Salary increases were approved for municipal employees, including the Stouffville Police Chief. Council authorized that he receive \$3,700 plus a \$300 car allowance and \$100 for clothes. Donald Harper of Harold Street, Stouffville, was slightly injured when his car was in collision with a C.N.R. snowplow at the Hwy. 47 level crossing. There were no automatic signals at the site and the driver's view was blocked by snowbanks. Harold saw the approaching engine at the last second but couldn't stop. He had purchased his car only four days before. Students of Stouffville High School received their mid-term progress reports following Christmas examinations.

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Diana Crocker has been released from Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto. She is presently convalescing at home following a recent accident. Mrs. Melba Steckley is home following three weeks in the Toronto East General Hospital. Friends were pleased to see Alvin Farmer in church, Sunday morning, following his many weeks of illness. Although still at Parkview in Stouffville, he's now able to spend the weekends at his own home. Mrs. Martha Wideman is holidaying in Florida.

The M.Y.F. will meet at the Missionary Church, Friday at 7:30 p.m. The Christ Crusaders will meet at the same place, Sunday at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Cecil Rosenberger conducted the chapel service, Sunday evening at Parkview Home in Stouffville. Shelly Winters sang, accompanied by Yvonne Johnson.

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Mr. and Mrs. Myrtle, Feb. 2 at her home in Toronto. Service was held from the McEachnie Funeral Home, Pickering on Monday afternoon with interment, Claremont Cemetery. Four Claremont ladies, representing the Claremont Legion Auxiliary, won the Zone F1 Dart Tournament Championship at Oshawa. Participants were - Gail Zampaloni, Lillian MacGregor, Doris Hopkins and Eileen Ball. Twenty teams were entered.

Mr. C.R. Purcell of RR 1, Claremont has been released from York County Hospital, Newmarket. Mrs. W.J. Briggs, formerly of Claremont, is a patient in Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto. The Claremont Golden Age Club will hold a euchre, Thursday (tonight) in the clubhouse at 8 p.m. The community welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Ward McCance and family, Heather, Jenny and Kevin. They have purchased the home owned formerly by Jim Holes. They have moved to the United States. Prior to coming here, Mr. and Mrs. McCance and children resided at Box Grove. The Evening Unit of the United Church Women will meet Feb. 12 at 8 p.m., in the home of Bernice Ward. The roll call will be answered by "A Cure For The Blues". Rosemary Timms will be in charge of the program. Members are asked to bring their hobby basket ... and a friend. Sympathy is extended to Mait Anderson in the passing of his

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## Heads up Community Association

By ROSEMARY TIMMS CLAREMONT - Allen Graham will head up the Claremont and District Community Association for 1979. The organization held its general meeting, Feb. 1 in the hall. Others on the executive include - Jim Doyle, vice-president; Rick Rose, treasurer; Rhoda Almack, secretary; directors - Noreen Hill, Mary Borland, Carl Young, Ken Mulveney and Frank Martin. The Claremont Sports Association has called a meeting for Sunday, Feb. 11 at 1 p.m., in the Community Hall. Persons wishing to assist as coaches and umpires, or help out in any way, are urged to attend. Mr. C.R. Purcell of RR 1, Claremont has been released from York County Hospital, Newmarket. Mrs. W.J. Briggs, formerly of Claremont, is a patient in Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto. The Claremont Golden Age Club will hold a euchre, Thursday (tonight) in the clubhouse at 8 p.m. The community welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Ward McCance and family, Heather, Jenny and Kevin. They have purchased the home owned formerly by Jim Holes. They have moved to the United States. Prior to coming here, Mr. and Mrs. McCance and children resided at Box Grove. The Evening Unit of the United Church Women will meet Feb. 12 at 8 p.m., in the home of Bernice Ward. The roll call will be answered by "A Cure For The Blues". Rosemary Timms will be in charge of the program. Members are asked to bring their hobby basket ... and a friend. Sympathy is extended to Mait Anderson in the passing of his

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